Information Literacy & POGIL
A new approach to using inquiry learning in libraries

Primary Sources Workshop

Participants: Boise State University education majors at junior level

Content Learning Objectives:
1) Develop content knowledge
2) Distinguish between primary and secondary sources.

Process Skills Objectives: Develop critical thinking, analysis, and information processing skills.

Team Task #1: Explore the letter
Instructions:
1) All group members read the Letter to President Eisenhower, May 13, 1958.

Critical Thinking Questions:
1) What type of document is this?
2) Comment on any unique physical characteristics of the document.
3) Who created/authored the document? For what audience?
4) Why do you think the document was written? What evidence from the letter supports your answer?
5) List two things the document tells you about life in the United States during the 1950s.
6) Write a question to the author that is left unanswered by the document.

Team Task #2: Explore the photograph
Instructions:
1) All group members view the Photograph, August 28, 1963.
2) Divide the photo up into four equal parts, and examine each part individually.

Critical Thinking Questions:
1) Who are the people in the photograph?
2) What objects are in the photograph?
3) What activities are taking place in the photograph?
4) Based on what you have observed in the photograph, list two things you might infer.
5) List two questions this photo raises in your mind.
6) How might you go about finding the answers to your questions?

Team Task #3: Define primary and secondary sources

Critical Thinking Questions:
1) What do the letter and photograph you just looked at have in common?
2) What is a primary source, in your own words? List three examples different from those you just viewed.
3) What is a secondary source, in your own words? List three examples different from those you just viewed.
4) What defines primary and secondary sources - format or purpose? or both?
5) What unique information or perspective do primary sources add to your knowledge of civil rights?

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Photograph, Jackie Robinson and son being interviewed at the March on Washington, August 28, 1963, National Archives & Records Administration