Welcome!

Teaching with Primary Sources across Tennessee, administered by the Center for Historic Preservation at Middle Tennessee State University, engages learners of all ages in using primary sources to explore major issues and questions in many different disciplines. Web site: www.mtsu.edu/tps  Contact: sgraham@mtsu.edu or (615) 898-2947

News:

- What would you like to see in future newsletters or on our Web site? Please send this two-minute questionnaire or any ideas you have to sgraham@mtsu.edu.
- Be sure to check out the upcoming pre-recorded Web cast on March 19! Dr. Stacey Graham will be teaming up with MTSU English professor Dr. Mark Jackson to discuss “Teaching with American Folk Music.” Dr. Jackson will focus on the folk songs of Dust Bowl migrants during the Great Depression of the 1930s and 40s. Lesson plans for grade school and high school will be provided, as well as helpful links to online primary source collections and teacher materials.

Highlight on Source Sets:

Civil Rights Movement

Clinton, TN School Integration

Wynnewood, Castalian Springs, Sumner County, TN

Upcoming Events:

- February 16 (Clinton)- In-service workshop for Anderson County social studies teachers, 8-11 a.m.
- February 27 (Murfreesboro, MTSU)- Tennessee History Day regional competition—pick up our flyer!
- March 6 (Knoxville)- Tennessee Council for Social Studies Conference, 11 a.m.-12 p.m.
- March 7 (Knoxville)- University of Tennessee- Knoxville History Teachers Workshop, 9.15-10.15 a.m.
- March 18 (Chattanooga)- Tennessee Association of Museums (TAM) Conference, 1:30-2:30 p.m.
- March 19- MTSU Web cast: “Teaching with American Folk Music,” 3:30-4:30 p.m. (Note: This will be pre-recorded.)
- March 27 (Murfreesboro, MTSU)- MTSU Conference on Baseball in Literature and Culture, time TBA
- March 31 (Murfreesboro, MTSU)- Instructional Technology Conference, 11 a.m.-12 p.m.
**CELEBRATING AFRICAN AMERICAN HERITAGE**

Did you know that African American History Month has been taking place since 1926? Historian Carter G. Woodson, the son of two former slaves, started “Negro History Week” in the second week in February that year, as it coincided with Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass’s birthdays.

For more on Woodson, and other famous African Americans, check out Featured African Americans on the Library of Congress Web site.

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**LESSON IDEAS—LANGUAGE ARTS/ READING**

Over two thousand former slaves’ stories can be found in the *Born In Slavery: Slave Narratives from the Federal Workers’ Project, 1936-1938* collection, as well as hundreds of pictures. Even more can be found in the *Voices from the Days of Slavery* collection, which contains audio recordings of participants’ interviews.

Students can draw timelines based on what they learn from these interviews or even try interviewing each other as if they were in the Federal Writers’ Project (FWP). Strengthen reading skills by reading the interviews on screen while listening to the same interviews in audio format.

The *Collection Connections* page also contains great plans for teaching about language arts using these interviews. Note how the FWP interviewers tried to spell words according to the different dialects of the former slaves.

These ideas can be adapted to meet state Language Arts and Reading content standards for grades K-8, such as 1.01, 1.09, and 1.12, which focus on language, communication, and media.

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**LESSON IDEAS—SCIENCE**

Benjamin Banneker was an African American astronomer and author of the *Benjamin Banneker’s Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland and Virginia Almanack and Ephemeris, for the Year of Our Lord 1792*. Students can research this primary source for many different kinds of information.

*American Memory* has several great primary sources available, including the almanac, letters from Thomas Jefferson to Banneker, and newspaper articles. Students can share what they have learned with the class.

This idea can be adapted to meet state Earth Science content standards for high school, such as 1.2 and 1.3, which focus on heavenly bodies and gravitational effects in the solar system. (*Note: Use pages 5-18 of Banneker’s almanac.*)
PRIMARY SOURCE SET—AFRICAN AMERICAN HERITAGE

A RISING SCIENTIST.

Gilchrist Stewart's Remarkable Success in Dairy Work. (1897)

The constant progress which African Americans are making is seen in the very large number of promising young men who are rapidly coming to the front in every direction. Among them is Gilchrist Stewart, whose cut appears in this issue. Within the past two years he has reached a very high place among the recognized authorities in scientific dairying. His work on the editorial staff of the Success and Farmer and on the Wisconsin agriculturalist, and his contributions to other journals of like character, has given him a national reputation in the world of scientific dairying. Mr. Stewart was born in Columbia, S. C., August 10, 1873. His father is Counsellor O. McCants Stewart, of this city. He

Rising Scientist [Gilchrist Stewart, 1897].

Electric phosphate smelting furnace used to make elemental phosphorus in a TVA chemical plant in the vicinity of Muscle Shoals, Alabama [1942]

African American baseball players from Morris Brown College, with boy and another man standing at door, Atlanta, Georgia, [1899-1900]

Background Map [Freedom Riders], 1961

Katherine Dunham, Barrelhouse [video recording], 1941

Note: This recording plays more smoothly on the RealMedia option.

Swing Low, Sweet Chariot [1881]