Primary and Secondary Sources

Grade 3 Social Studies Worksheet - Building Confidence

Name _____ Date _____

Circle the answer.

1. Which source was written many years after the parade?

Source A

Town history textbook

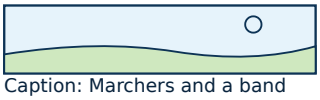
Written many years later

The parade became a yearly event after that first march.

Source B

Parade photograph

Taken on parade day



Caption: Marchers and a band fill Main Street.

the parade photograph
a marcher's diary from parade day
the town history textbook

2. The telegram was sent on the day the first train came. Who most likely sent it?

Source A

Telegram to the mayor

Sent on opening day, 1905

First train arrived at noon. Crowd of 500 cheering.

Source B

Documentary film

Made in 2005

Crowds cheered when the first train arrived. The station helped the town grow.

someone at the station that day
a student in 2005
a writer 100 years later

3. Which source shows what the 1952 fair looked like?

Source A

Magazine article

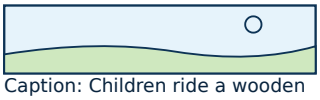
Written in 2012

The town fair has been held every summer since 1950.

Source B

Fair photograph

Taken at the town fair, 1952



Caption: Children ride a wooden merry-go-round.

a fair map from 2020 the magazine article the fair photograph

4. Which source was written by someone who was not at the old school?

Source A

Ella's diary

Written by Ella, a student, in 1925

We sat on long benches. Our room had one wood stove.

Source B

Museum article

Written in 2015

The old school had one room. It closed in 1950.

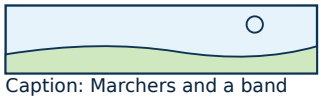
the museum article
Ella's diary
a letter from Ella's teacher in 1925

5. Look at both sources. Which one is a primary source about the parade?

Source A

Parade photograph

Taken on parade day



Caption: Marchers and a band fill Main Street.

Source B

Town history textbook

Written many years later

The parade became a yearly event after that first march.

a website about the parade written later
the town history textbook
the parade photograph

6. When was Ella's diary written?

Source A

Museum article

Written in 2015

The old school had one room. It closed in 1950.

Source B

Ella's diary

Written by Ella, a student, in 1925

We sat on long benches. Our room had one wood stove.

while Ella went to the old school
many years after the school closed
before the school was built

7. Which source was made on the garden's opening day?

Source A

Opening-day program

Printed for visitors on opening day

Welcome to our new garden! Planting starts at 10.

Source B

History book chapter

Written years later

Neighbors built the garden as a shared space for the town.

the history book chapter
a garden website made later
the opening-day program

8. Look at both sources. Which one is a secondary source?

Source A

Encyclopedia article

Published years later

Town councils make decisions about local services, such as parks.

Source B

Election ballot

Used on election day, 1990

Choose one person for town council. Mark one box.

a voter's letter from election day
the election ballot
the encyclopedia article

9. Why is the volunteer interview a primary source?

Source A

Volunteer interview

Recorded during the cleanup

I carried three bags of trash from the riverbank today.

Source B

Cleanup report

Written after many cleanups

Several cleanups helped remove trash from local rivers.

The speaker was at the cleanup.
It was written years later.
It talks about many cleanups.

10. What does the construction photograph show?

Source A

Newspaper article

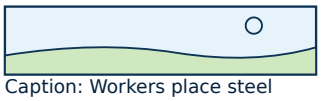
Written after the bridge opened

The new bridge helps people cross the river faster.

Source B

Construction photograph

Taken while the bridge was being built



Caption: Workers place steel beams over the river.

workers placing beams over the river
people cutting a ribbon to open it
cars driving over the finished bridge

Scan to get this marked free. No screen time for your child.
Print it · do it in pencil · scan it · PencilGo picks the next sheet.

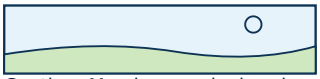
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Answer Key - Grade 3 Social Studies Worksheet - Building Confidence

Circle the answer.

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Written many years later
The parade became a yearly event after that first march.

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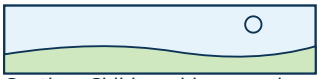
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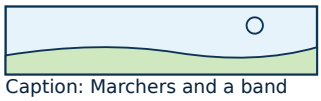
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