Primary and Secondary Sources

Grade 4 Social Studies Worksheet

Name _____ Date _____

Circle the primary source in each group.

1. A biography of a president, written by a historian.
   A news special looking back on a flood from ten years ago.
   A speech given by a mayor at the opening of a park, as written down that day.

2. A map in an atlas showing the routes of explorers, drawn by a modern mapmaker.
   A poster a student made about the Gold Rush.
   A bill of sale for a horse, signed in 1855.

3. A photograph taken at a town parade in 1920.
   A chart in a book that sums up how many settlers came by wagon.
   A student's essay about the building of the canal.

4. A teacher's slide show about the Oregon Trail.
   A drawing a child made of her town in 1910.
   An article about how the first telephone worked, written in 2019.

5. A photograph of workers building a bridge, taken while they worked.
   A song written last year about the railroad workers of long ago.
   A textbook chapter about the Pony Express, written last year.

6. A book about life on the frontier, written by a teacher.
   A journal kept by a lighthouse keeper in 1890.
   A magazine article about the 1906 earthquake, written in 2020.

7. A museum website article about ancient Egypt.
   A school play about the first Thanksgiving.
   An interview with a woman who lived through the big storm of 1960.

8. A model of a Roman road built by a class.
   A documentary film made in 2015 about the 1920s.
   A poster from the 1925 county fair.

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Answer Key - Grade 4 Social Studies Worksheet

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