Teacher's Guide: Helpful strategies form the Library of Congress to help students analyze primary resources.

Document Analysis Worksheets: Analysis worksheets were designed and developed by the Education Staff of the National Archives and Records Administration. You may find these worksheets useful as you introduce students to various documents.

- Primary Source Analysis Tool, a.k.a. Analysis Tool for Students (for all kinds of primary sources)
  - Interactive, Web-based format
  - Writable, printable PDF format

Colonialism (1600-1750)

Primary Documents and Supporting Texts to Read: excerpts from The First Virginia Charter, 1606; The Mayflower Compact, 1620; excerpts from the Charter of Massachusetts Bay Colony, 1629; excerpts from The Fundamental Orders of Connecticut, 1639; excerpts from The Maryland Toleration Act, 1649; excerpts from The New England Articles of Confederation; excerpts from A Historie of Virginia, (“starving time”) John Smith; excerpts from Of Plymouth Plantation, William Bradford

Development of a New Nation (1720-1787)

Primary Documents and Supporting Texts to Read: excerpts from “Give Me Liberty or Give Me Death” speech, Patrick Henry; The Declaration of Independence; excerpts from “Common Sense” and The Crisis,” Thomas Paine; excerpts from Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin

Primary Documents and Supporting Texts to Consider: excerpts from Andrew Hamilton’s closing argument in the trial of John Peter Zenger; excerpts from John Donelson’s journal

The Constitution and Foundation of the American Political System (1777-1789)

Primary Documents and Supporting Texts to Read: excerpts from The Articles of Confederation; the U.S. Constitution; The Federalist Paper #10 and #51; The Bill of Rights; Washington’s Farewell Address

Primary Documents and Supporting Texts to Consider: excerpts from The Kentucky and Virginia Resolutions, Thomas Jefferson and James Madison; Patrick Henry’s arguments against ratification

Growth of the Young Nation (1789-1849)

Primary Documents and Supporting Texts to Read: excerpts from the journals of Lewis and Clark; excerpts from decision in Marbury vs. Madison, John Marshall

Primary Documents and Supporting Texts to Consider: excerpts from John
Eighth Grade Social Studies Primary Documents and Supporting Texts

Marshall’s decisions in Gibbons v. Ogden and McCulloch v. Maryland; excerpts from “Rip Van Winkle” and “The Legend of Sleepy Hollow”, Washington Irving; excerpts from The Deerslayer series, James Fenimore Cooper

**The United States’ Role on the World Stage (1789-1849)**

**Primary Documents and Supporting Texts to Read**: excerpts from The Monroe Doctrine

**The Sectionalism of the American North, South, and West (1800-1850)**

**Primary Documents and Supporting Texts to Read**: excerpts from “The Declaration of Sentiments,” Seneca Falls Convention; excerpts from “Nature” and “Self-Reliance”, Ralph Waldo Emerson; excerpts from “Walden” and “Civil Disobedience,” Henry David Thoreau; excerpts from “Ain’t I A Woman,” Sojourner Truth translated by Frances Dana Barker Gage; excerpts from Eliza Bryan of the New Madrid Earthquakes

**Primary Document and Supporting Texts to Consider**: excerpts from Roughing It, Mark Twain; excerpts from A Narrative in the Life of David Crockett of the state of Tennessee, David Crockett

**Slavery in America (1800-1850)**

**Primary Documents and Supporting Texts to Read**: excerpts from Uncle Tom’s Cabin, Beecher Stowe; excerpts from the Lincoln-Douglas Debates; excerpts from Roger Taney’s decision in the Dred Scott case; excerpts from The Autobiography of Frederick Douglass, Frederick Douglass.

**Civil War (1830-1865)**

**Primary Documents and Supporting Texts to Read**: excerpts from the “House Divided” speech in 1858, Gettysburg Address in 1863, Emancipation Proclamation in 1863, and Inaugural Addresses in 1861 and 1865, Abraham Lincoln; excerpts from The Respective of Co. Aytch, Sam Watkins

**Reconstruction (1865-1877)**

**Primary Documents and Supporting Texts to Read**: excerpts from the 13th, 14th, and 15th Amendments to the Constitution.

**Primary Documents and Supporting Texts to Consider**: excerpts from Black Codes and Jim Crow Laws.

**Westward Expansion after the Civil War (1865-1890)**

**Primary Documents and Supporting Texts to Read**: excerpts from A Century of Dishonor, Helen Hunt Jackson.