

# Teaching with Primary Sources

## Western Regional Center



### What is the Teaching with Primary Sources Program?

As part of the larger national Library of Congress Teaching with Primary Sources program, the TPS-Western Region serves the following States:

**Alaska**  
**Arizona**  
**Hawaii**  
**Idaho**  
**Montana**

**Nevada**  
**New Mexico**  
**North Dakota**  
**Oregon**  
**South Dakota**

**Texas**  
**Utah**  
**Washington**  
**Wyoming**

The goals of the program are to collaborate with educational institutions within the region to provide professional development for in-service and pre-service classroom teachers, faculty such as librarians, media specialists and educational support personnel, and college faculty to access, use, and develop curriculum utilizing digitized primary sources from the Library of Congress collections. For more information please visit the TPS-Western Region website at <http://www.mscd.edu/tpsmountainplains>.

### Why Use Primary Sources?

Primary sources are snippets of history that may include letters, manuscripts, diaries, journals, newspapers, speeches, photos, interviews, and others. They often come with minimal context. Working with primary sources requires students to be analytical, to examine sources thoughtfully, and to determine what else they need to know to make inferences from the material. History comes alive for students that are motivated by primary sources. Analysis of primary sources will deepen student understanding of the curriculum through developing students' memory, reason, and imagination to foster empathy for the past, perspectives on the present, and the ability to influence the future.

### Why Participate in the TPS-Western Region Program?

There are numerous reasons to participate in this enriched educational program. As a TPS regional collaborator, your group will be part of a national program which helps its participants learn to access and use Library of Congress online materials and other digital primary sources. Program participants also become influential mentors in their schools and help others learn to best access, use, and create digital media resources in the classroom.

### How can my organization participate in the TPS-Western Region Program?

The TPS-Western Region program seeks to collaborate with existing educational institutions that have the ability to reach and support K-16 educators. These groups are encouraged to submit proposals. Grantees will be eligible for up to \$15,000 in funding to assist with the implementation of the program. For general inquiries, please contact the offices of the TPS-Western Region at the Metropolitan State College of Denver at (303) 352-4945 or via email at [mscd-tpscolorado@mscd.edu](mailto:mscd-tpscolorado@mscd.edu).

### What is the TPS-Western Region Implementation Schedule?

TPS Mountain Plains is currently accepting grant proposals. For additional information contact TPS-Western Regional Center at (303)352-4945, or visit our website at <http://www.mscd.edu/tpsmountainplains>.

