

TO COLLECT, PROTECT, AND SERVE

BEHIND THE SCENES AT THE LIBRARY OF VIRGINIA

CONSIDER THE SOURCE

Libby the Librarian has to sort a pile of materials as either primary or secondary sources. Help her by labeling each of these items as either Primary or Secondary.



PRIMARY SOURCE

A document that contains a firsthand account of an event. It was created either when the event took place or at a later time by someone who was there.

SECONDARY SOURCE

A work that was not created as firsthand evidence, but instead relies on other sources of information. A secondary source usually relies on, or interprets, primary sources.

_____ A letter from Robert E. Lee to Jefferson Davis

_____ A book about enslaved people in Virginia during the Civil War

_____ A petition from an enslaved woman to the General Assembly

_____ A movie review for *The New World*

_____ A painting of Lila Meade Valentine made when she was alive by an artist who knew her

_____ A memo from the CEO of a cell phone company to the employees in his office

_____ A DVD of interviews recorded during the last governor's election

_____ A printout of e-mails between a prisoner at a penitentiary and his wife

list continues on back

- _____ A recording of a radio program that aired in 2005 about the effects of segregation on school children in the 1950s
- _____ A brochure advertising a rally for local farming organizers
- _____ A biography of Maggie Lena Walker
- _____ A textbook on Virginia for fourth graders
- _____ A diary of a woman who lived in Halifax County in the 1960s, describing her daily activities
- _____ An encyclopedia of women scientists
- _____ A memoir by Arthur Ashe, describing his life and achievements
- _____ An anniversary edition of a civil rights magazine published in 1995 with articles describing the events when the 1965 Civil Rights Act was passed
- _____ A book of the collected writings of Thomas Jefferson
- _____ An article from a scholarly journal about children's toys in the nineteenth century
- _____ A photograph of a the Annual Cheroenhaka (Nottoway) Indian Pow Wow
- _____ A DVD of a television documentary about the founding of Jamestown
- _____ A graph representing census data and local records for the growth in populations of people of Asian decent in Virginia over the last fifty years