

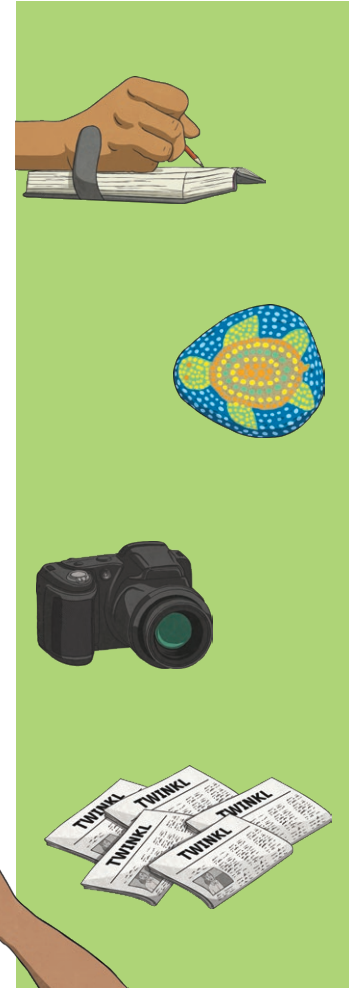
Primary and Secondary Sources

What Is a Primary Source?

A primary source is an original first-hand account of an event, topic, or historical period in time. Anything that contains original information on a specific event, topic, or period in time is considered a primary source. They are produced at the time of the specific event by a person who has experienced it. Primary sources can also be made after an event has occurred in the form of personal memoirs or oral histories.

Examples of Primary Sources:

- letters, diaries, and journals (personal thoughts)
- original photographs
- newspaper reports
- speeches, autobiographies, and memoirs
- plays, paintings, and songs
- research data and surveys



What Is a Secondary Source?

A secondary source is a second-hand account that interprets or critiques primary sources. They often analyze and draw conclusions from events that are discussed or featured in primary sources.

Examples of Secondary Sources:

- textbooks
- essays and reviews
- commentaries

