

How to Google for Primary Sources

Search Terms

Add these **primary source search terms** to your topical search terms to more easily find trusted, credible primary sources online from cultural heritage or educational organizations.

exhibition
“digital exhibit”
“digital collection”
“primary sources”

archives
“special collections”
library
museum

papers
manuscripts
records
collection

“teacher’s kit”
curriculum
“lesson plans”
“learning object”

Example:

“women’s suffrage” “digital collection”



You can also try **format-specific search** terms such as:

“account ledgers”
acts
“archival footage”
audio (1870s+)
clippings
correspondence
diaries
deeds
ephemera
film / video (1890s+)
“financial records”
“government publications”
handbooks, manuals

invitations
“lab notebooks”
“legal records”
legislation
letters
maps
memoirs
menus
“military orders”
newspapers
“oral histories”
pamphlets
paintings

photographs (1850s+)
polls
posters
“press releases”
prints
reports
scrapbooks
sermons
speeches
telegraphs
treaties
tickets
wills