

Secondary Source Resources

What is a Secondary Source? Materials made/published after a historical event by those who were not present

Types of Secondary Sources (from the National History Day Rulebook – pg. 9):

- History textbooks
- Articles in professional journals and books written by historians
- Biographies
- Articles found on credible internet sites

A note on Wikipedia, History Channel, National Geographic, etc.

Sites like Wikipedia, History Channel and National Geographic (among others like it) are a great resource when you are starting your research. They can help you wrap your head around a topic and understand the basics. You can also find some additional sources to research in their citations. But, these sites are not considered credible for use in History Day projects, so please do not use them as a secondary source in your project.

Secondary Sources to Explore for Most (United States) Topics

- American Battlefield Trust: battlefields.org/learn
- JSTOR: jstor.org
 - NOTE: this is a collection of journal articles from a variety of topics. Some articles require a subscription. If you have difficulty accessing an article of interest let your coordinators know.
- Historic Newspapers: <https://www.newspapers.com/> and <https://newspaperarchive.com/>
 - Manatee County Historical Records Library (1405 4th Ave W, Bradenton) has a subscription for both on a public-access computer. Call (941) 741-4070 for more information.
- Office of the Historian: history.state.gov
- Chronicling America: <https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/>
- Oxford Academic Journal of American History: academic.oup.com/jah
 - NOTE: This is a collection of journal articles on historical topics.
- National Park Service: www.nps.gov