

The Reading and Writing Project
Resources for Social Studies

Art Museum Sites
(For Art Historical Images)

<http://www.caamuseum.org/>

The California African American Museum has collections of art related to the African Diaspora, traditional African art, and contemporary exhibitions. Go to ‘collections’ to access images.

<http://www.louvre.fr>

The site of the Louvre Museum in Paris. Particularly useful for ancient Greek, Roman, and Egyptian artifacts. You can download and print color images, or save an online collection to use in class.

<http://www.britishmuseum.org/>

The British Museum has terrific ancient art collections, particularly from Ancient Egypt. The Young Explorers section offers simulations for children, as well.

<http://www.metmuseum.org>

The site of the NYC Metropolitan Museum of art. Create your own archive, print historical information, and color print or save a file of images. Fantastic for images of the American West especially, and for American modernism/industrialism.

<http://www.artic.edu>

The site of the Art Institute of Chicago. Go to ‘collections’ and you can build your own collection to share with students – either online or you can print it. Search by theme or by artist or by collection, such as ‘African-American Artists.’

<http://www.asianart.org/>

The Asian Art Museum of San Francisco offers tremendous online collections through 6000 years of history and gives you access to the major traditions and culture. It is invitational for students as well, with youtube and twitter onscreen.

<http://www.japansociety.org/>

The Japan Society of New York not only offers historical exhibitions, it also traces these antecedents in contemporary graphic novels and pop culture. Access exhibitions and educator resources.

<http://www.elmuseo.org/>

The Museo de Barrio is dedicated to Caribbean, Latino, and Latin American Art. Access images, and also explanations of the important role of these artists.

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History Museum Sites
(For Primary Sources)

<http://www.tenement.org/>

The site of the Tenement Museum of NYC. Download primary sources, including documents and photos. Take a virtual tour of the museum, with an on-line guide.

<http://www.ushmm.org/>

The United States Memorial Holocaust Museum – one of the greatest and most accessible resources for any study of the Holocaust. Print photographs, letters, diary entries. Access historical summaries. Don't miss the Education department, which provides resources for teachers.

<http://www.nmai.si.edu/>

The National Museum of the American Indian's Education department (click that button), provides guides for educators on Native American Nations, and resources for students on artifacts, history, culture, and everyday life. Exhibitions can also be viewed online.

Primary Source Documents

<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/>

An indispensable archive from the Library of Congress section on American Memory. Download historical pamphlets from the African American pamphlet collection, or three centuries of broadsides, including invitations to pioneers to get their land grants. Look at photographs from the Depression, or from the American West. Subheadings lead you to the archives of collections. You can print from the online image.

<http://www.ourdocuments.gov/>

This site provides images of the original documents, from the Declaration of Independence to the patent for the cotton gin. It also gives a 'print-friendly' version in a contemporary font, as well as a historical description. For teachers to download primary sources.

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Simulations and Activities

<http://www2.scholastic.com/browse/home.jsp>

In the 'Student Activity' center, students can upload a virtual tour of the Mayflower and learn about the first Thanksgiving

(http://www.scholastic.com/scholastic_thanksgiving/voyage/index.htm), or follow an escaped slave on the underground railroad

(http://teacher.scholastic.com/activities/bhistory/underground_railroad/), and participate in a variety of online history activities designed for students to navigate independently.

<http://www.digitalhistory.uh.edu/>

Digital history provides interactive timelines, images, and articles

The Oregon Trail by The Learning Company

Students choose characters, supplies, companions, and then make series of decisions along the Oregon Trail. Ethical as well as practical decisions have immediate and long-term implications. This simulation needs to be ordered online and installed on the computer. The online version only allows limited play.