

## **What to Do in Denver in the 1920's**

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### **OVERVIEW**

Students will examine historical photographs and text about community life in Denver in the 1920's and then write a newspaper's entertainment schedule for one weekend.

### **STANDARDS**

- Reading & Writing Standard 2.1: Students write and speak for a variety of purposes
- Reading & Writing Standard 5: Students read to locate, select, and make use of relevant information from a variety of media, reference, and technological sources.
- History Standard 2.2: Students know how to interpret and evaluate primary and secondary sources of historical information.

### **OBJECTIVES**

After completing this activity students will be able to:

- Interpret information from historical photographs and text
- Determine common community and leisure activities in Denver around 1920
- Create an entertainment section for a newspaper in 1920, outlining activities available to the public

### **INQUIRY QUESTIONS**

- What kinds of activities did people in Denver do in the 1920's?
- Were these activities available for everyone?
- Were these activities always available or were some for special occasions?
- Which activities were seasonal or related to holidays?
- What was popular in 1920?
- What did kids like to do? What did adults like to do?

## **MATERIALS**

- All photographs and text from the Twentieth Century Topic, Community Life Theme on the Doing History CD-ROM disk or Internet site
- An overhead transparency of a recent entertainment listing in a newspaper

## **PROCEDURE**

1. Have students review the photographs and text dealing with Community Life in the Twentieth Century with the above inquiry questions in mind.
2. As a whole class or in small groups, discuss the students' thoughts and answers to the inquiry questions, listing the activities the students noticed.
3. Show students the overhead of a recent entertainment section. Discuss its characteristics and the activities advertised. How is it different from other newspaper articles?

## **ASSESSMENT**

Tell students that they are going to pretend that they are journalists in Denver in the 1920's. Their job is to write the entertainment section for the weekend paper. Remind students that they need to decide on the date because time of year might affect what activities are available. Ask students to include as many activities as they think might have been listed at that time. Be creative – they can even include advertisements.