

Transcribing the Paxton Boys

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Context

This lesson is appropriate for mid- to high-performing history students. The assignment will require one 45-minute period with homework, or one 90-minute period with additional closure on another day.

This assignment pairs well with [An Interview with the Paxton Boys](#).

Relevant Standards

- CC 8.1.9.B through 8.1.9.D
- CC.8.5.9-10.B.
- CC.8.5.9-10.D.
- CC.8.6.9-10.C.
- CC.8.6.9-10.E.

Questions

- How do we analyze and evaluate sources?
- How do we interact with historical memory?
- How do we navigate and interpret archives and the sources they contain?

Learning Objectives/Results

- Students will decipher the literal and practical meaning of eighteenth-century printed text.
- Students will analyze and evaluate bias in primary sources.
- Students will successfully navigate a digital archive.

Differentiation

Allow students to phase from guided practice into independent work. Engage with struggling students until they demonstrate ability to reliably transcribe and interpret a passage.

Primary Source Materials

- [Penn Proclamation June 4th, 1765](#)

Secondary Source Materials (optional)

- [Transcription Best Practices](#)
- [The Black Boys of 1765](#)

Assignment Materials

- Google Drive or other file sharing service
- Projector and presentation slides for guided practice
- Entry Ticket
- Laptops equipped with Internet access