

This Activity was designed for use while visiting Fort Ticonderoga's exhibit: Object Lessons: Perspectives on Material Culture. In the exhibit ten objects are on display with four separate labels, telling different but interconnected stories. The four labels explain ways the object gives us information about art, culture, manufacture, and function. We hope visiting this exhibit will help students think about objects in a different way.

Before students enter the Exhibit, divide them up into 4 different groups. Assign each group to read a different type of label in the exhibit: Art, Culture, Function, and Manufacture. After they've read in the exhibit, ask them to fill out the worksheet on the next page. After students finish answering questions about their perspective, encourage them to read more of the labels in the exhibit to gain different perspectives. Worksheets can be shared back at school, or later in the day. It should be interesting to see the differences in student responses on the worksheet based on their different experiences of the worksheet.

## **National Standards Addressed in this Activity:**

### **C3 Framework Standards:**

**D2.His.10.6-8.** Detect possible limitations in the historical record based on evidence collected from different kinds of historical sources.

**D2.His.11.6-8.** Use other historical sources to infer a plausible maker, date, place of origin, and intended audience for historical sources where this information is not easily identified.

**D2.His.12.6-8.** Use questions generated about multiple historical sources to identify further areas of inquiry and additional sources.

**D2.His.13.6-8.** Evaluate the relevancy and utility of a historical source based on information such as maker, date, place of origin, intended audience, and purpose.

**D3.1.6-8.** Gather relevant information from multiple sources while using the origin, authority, structure, context, and corroborative value of the sources to guide the selection.

### **Common Core State Standards:**

**CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RH.6-8.7** Integrate visual information (e.g., in charts, graphs, photographs, videos, or maps) with other information in print and digital texts.

**CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.WHST.6-8.2.D** Use precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to inform about or explain the topic.

**CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.WHST.6-8.4** Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

# Object Lessons: It's all about perspective!

After looking at the objects in this exhibit from the assigned perspective, answer the following questions. These questions are very open ended, so don't be afraid to think outside of the box, just be able to explain your answer.

1. What do you think is the most important aspect of an object?
2. Why do people make things?
3. How do everyday objects tell stories?
4. What is your favorite object in this exhibit, and why?
5. What do you think is the most interesting object in this exhibit, and why?
6. What have you learned about life in the 18th century?