

## Essential Question

How is school today similar to and different from school in the past?

## Background Knowledge

- Students gather artifacts from their own classroom to discuss:
  - What do these artifacts tell other people about our class?
  - What objects in the classroom are the most important? Why?

### Source 1

→ [One room schoolhouse in rural Colorado](#)



### Strategy Instructions:

**Contextualization:** Finish the photo activity: Cut a primary source photo of a classroom in half and have students draw the other half based on classrooms today.

**Close Reading:** *See, think, wonder* by placing a photo in a plastic sheet protector and circling and annotating on it.

### Source 2

→ [Boys and teacher in school interior at Colorado School around 1910](#)



[Link to Supporting Documents](#)

## Discussion

- What do you see in the pictures that is different from school today? What is similar to school today?
- What else do you want to know about schools in the past? What questions do you have about schools long ago?
- Which era would you rather live in? Why?
- What do you think is important for students to learn in school?
- Why is it important to look at lots of different resources from the past? How do multiple resources help us as readers? As writers?

## Assessment

Students write a nonfiction chapter book using drawings and simple sentences that compares schools in the past to schools today based on a variety of characteristics (how classrooms looked, what tools students used in school, what students wore to school, etc.).