



# Teaching with objects



Puppet Planet Educational Packet #1  
Episode 1: *Thandi Finds a Fossil*





# Teaching with objects



Using objects to  
engage your learners

# *Object-based learning (OBL)*



**Object Based Learning** is a student-centered learning approach that uses objects to inspire deep learning.

Objects are brought into the learning environment for small group teaching or large group lectures.

The use of objects can act as multi-sensory “**thinking tools**” to promote learning and engagement.

# *Teaching yourself to teach with objects*



- Objects are fascinating!
- Objects are not age-specific - not tied to a particular grade level
- Objects help us document the history of life and culture
- Using objects helps students develop important intellectual skills
- Reference (pdf) - Hennigar Shuh

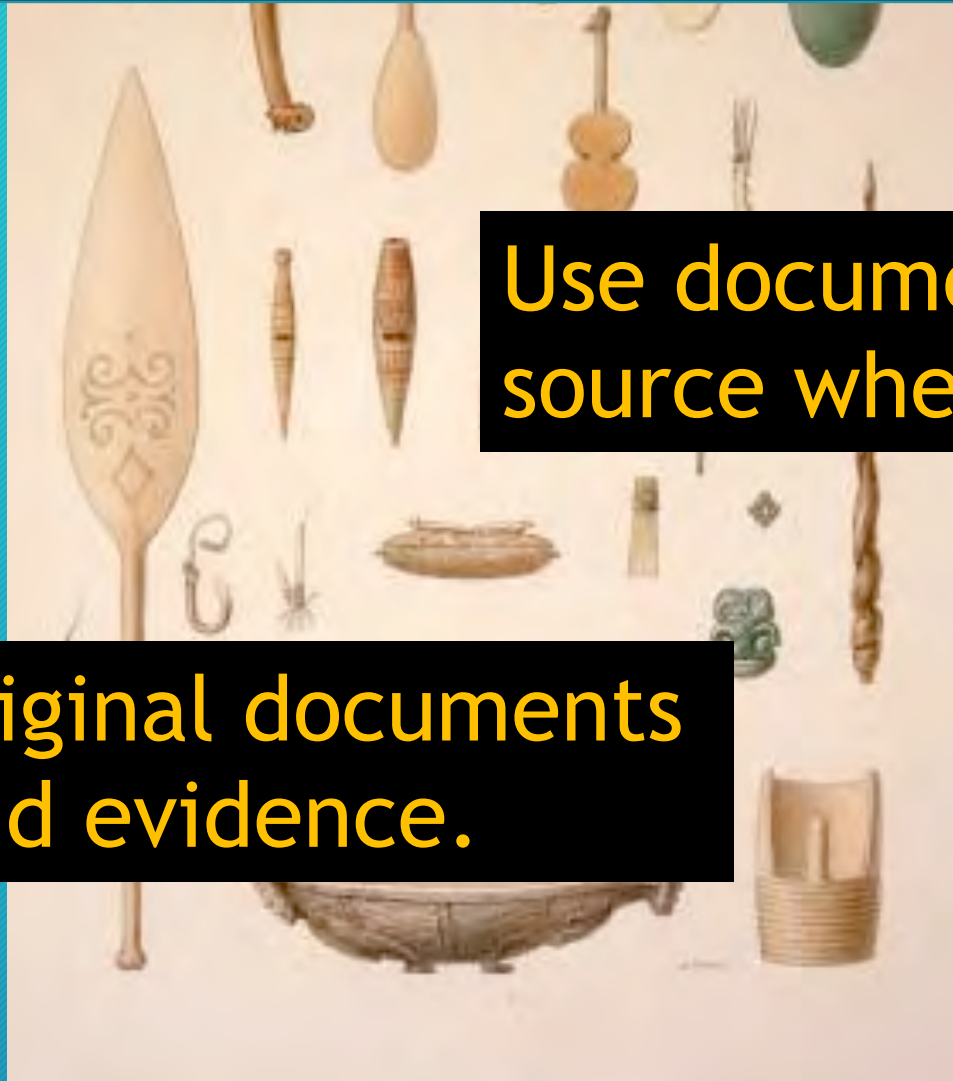
N.<sup>o</sup> ZÉLANDE.

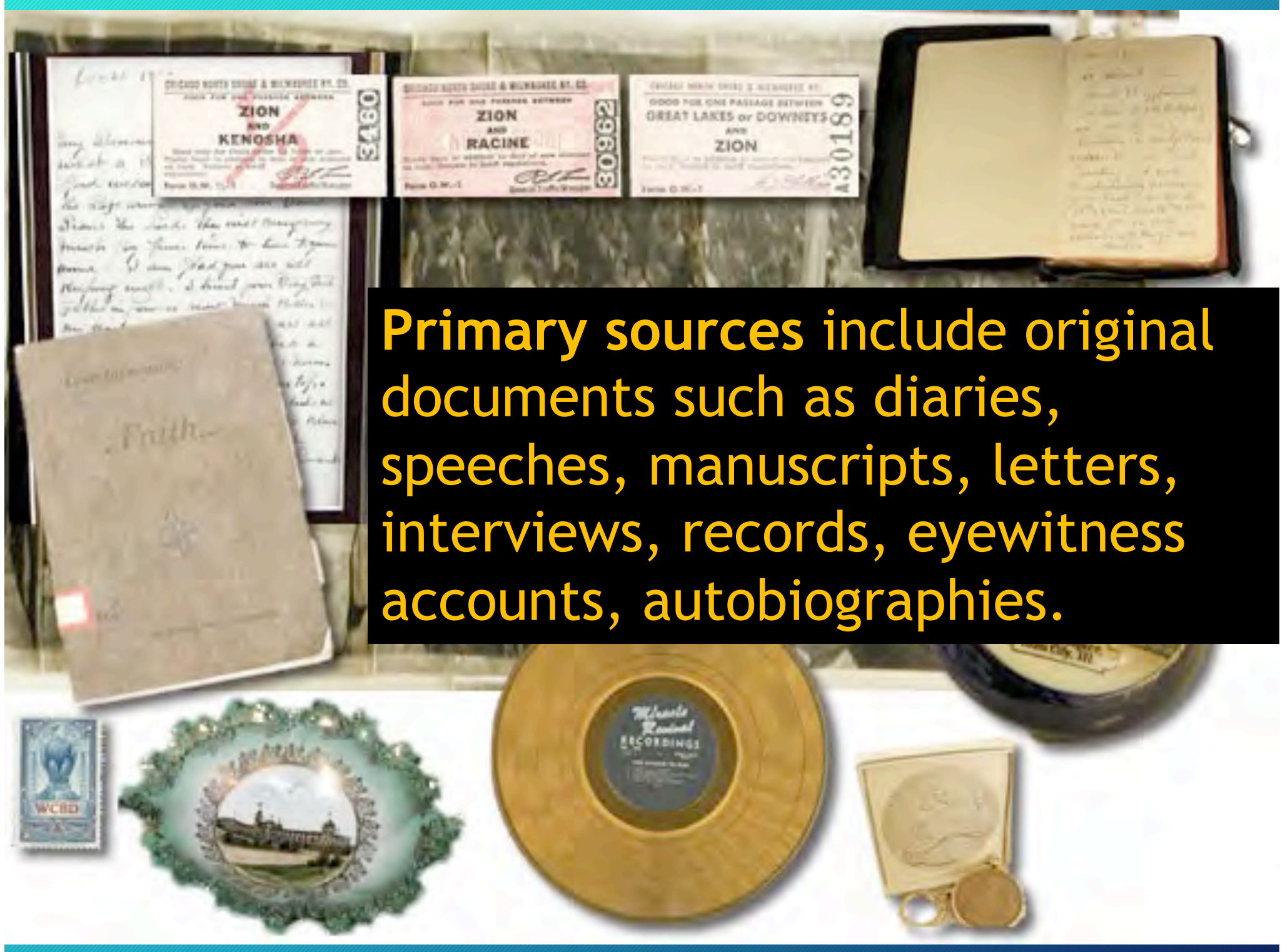
# *Teaching with primary source documents*



Use documents as a source when possible.

These are original documents with firsthand evidence.



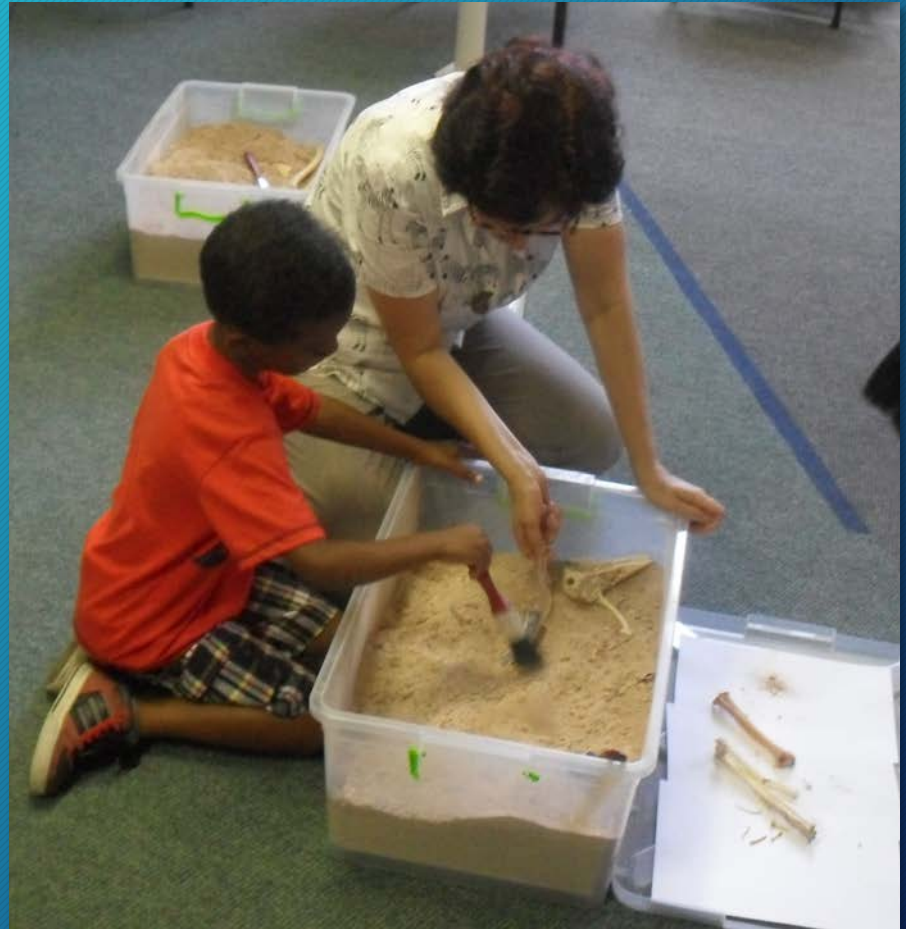


Primary sources include original documents such as diaries, speeches, manuscripts, letters, interviews, records, eyewitness accounts, autobiographies.

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Courtesy RM



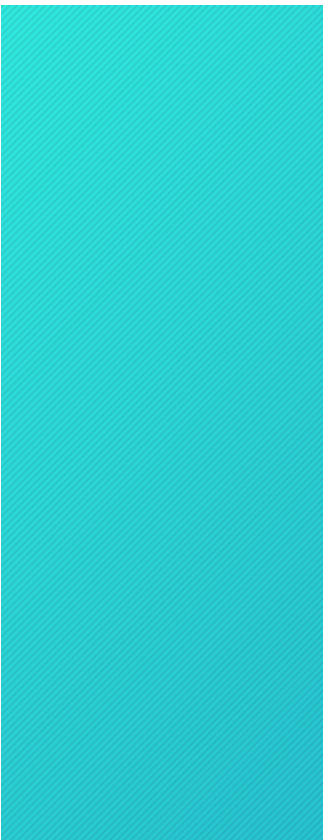
Authentic objects tell personal stories



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**Observational skills  
and critical thinking**

# How to get started incorporating objects into your teaching...



- Gain experience working with objects yourself
- Connect with local museum educators who can provide ideas and lessons on objects
- Develop cards with basic questions about observing objects to use with your learners
- Have your learners write and sketch about objects