

Analyzing Photographs

1.	Think about the last time you took or saw a photograph from our own time. Why was that photograph taken?
Di	d it capture that moment in history and show what it is like to live today?

2. Now look at the primary source photograph. What do you think is happening in this photograph? Write three words with your first impressions.

Encounter

3. Describe what you see in the photograph as if you were telling someone who couldn't see it.



Now that you've become familiar with the photograph, it's time to take a closer look at it.

4. First, look for a title or caption. Is there any information that will help you understand the photograph better? If so, summarize it.

5. What clues in the photograph itself might help you figure out where or when it was taken, or what's happening in it?

Investigate

6. Is this a formal or informal photograph? Is it a candid shot, or are the people posed?

7. Do you think this photograph was intended to be public or private? What do you think is the purpose of this photograph?

Once you've learned everything you can from the photograph, it's time to build on your knowledge.

9. Now that you know more about the photograph, how have your first impressions changed about what was happening in it?

10. If someone took this photograph in a different time or today, how would it change?

Build

11. How does this photograph add to your understanding of a historical event or people's lives in the past?



How can you add to the story?

- * What do you think happened one second after the photo was taken or one hour after?
- * Create a story from the perspective of one of the people in the photograph.
- * Write your own caption for the photograph, or write a story that goes with it.
- * Gather similar photographs into a book and write about them all together.



Tips for Studying Historical Photographs

Historians use their knowledge of the past to help figure out when photographs were taken. It's a little bit like being a detective. You collect a series of clues and do some research to find a possible date for a photograph. Here's some tips to help you do it!

Photography was invented in the 1820s, but it didn't become popular until the 1840s. Any photograph you see was almost certainly taken after 1840. Color photography was invented in the 1890s, but it didn't become popular until the 1960s. **Be careful though!** Today, photographers sometimes add color to black-and-white photographs, even very old ones. Likewise, lots of people today take black-and-white photographs rather than color. So, whether a picture is in color or black and white doesn't always show how old it is.

The first four things to look for in a photograph:

- 1) **Signs**. Many signs contain at least the year, if not the full date. Maybe it's a banner reading "Old Home Day Exeter 1905" or a placard in a store window that says "Spring 1935 Special." Signs can contain lots of other important information too, about where the photograph was taken or what is happening in the photograph, so read them carefully.
- 2) **Technology**. In the decades since photography became popular, technology has changed the world a lot. What modes of transportation are in the photograph—trains (invented in the 1820s)? cars (invented in the 1890s)? Segways (invented in 2001)? If one of these is pictured in the photograph, then the photograph must have been taken after that technology was invented. What about other technology, like telephones and telephone wires (became popular in the 1880s), radios (became popular in the 1920s), tvs (became popular in the 1950s), desktop computers (became popular in the 1980s), or any kind of electrical appliance or lights? Also think about all the things that go with the development of technology. If there's a gas station in the picture, then you know it was taken after cars became popular, even if there aren't cars in the photo.
- 3) **Fashion**. The clothes people wear have changed a great deal over time, especially women's clothing—their skirts in particular. By learning about women's fashions, you can get an idea of what time period a photograph was taken. Were the women wearing long skirts? Then the photo was probably taken before 1920. Were the women's skirts very wide, like a bell? Then the photo was probably taken before 1880.
- 4) **Buildings and Landmarks**. By studying the buildings and landmarks in the background, you can narrow down when a photo was taken. For example, if the library in your town was built in 1890 and it appears in the background of the picture, then the photo must have taken after 1890.

Collect all your clues and see what they tell you about your photograph!



Lesson 1.4: New Hampshire's Weather



Rattle River Bridge, after Flood, circa 1936 Source: New Hampshire Historical Society



Lesson 1.4: New Hampshire's Weather



A Flooded Car, 1936



Lesson 1.4: New Hampshire's Weather



Trees in Flood, 1927



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Downed Trees in Nashua, 1938 Source: New Hampshire Historical Society



Lesson 1.4: New Hampshire's Weather



Cars on a Flooded Street, 1938



Lesson 1.4: New Hampshire's Weather



Hurricane Aftermath on Park Street, 1938 Source: New Hampshire Historical Society



Lesson 1.4: New Hampshire's Weather



Large Tree Down After Hurricane, 1938 Source: New Hampshire Historical Society



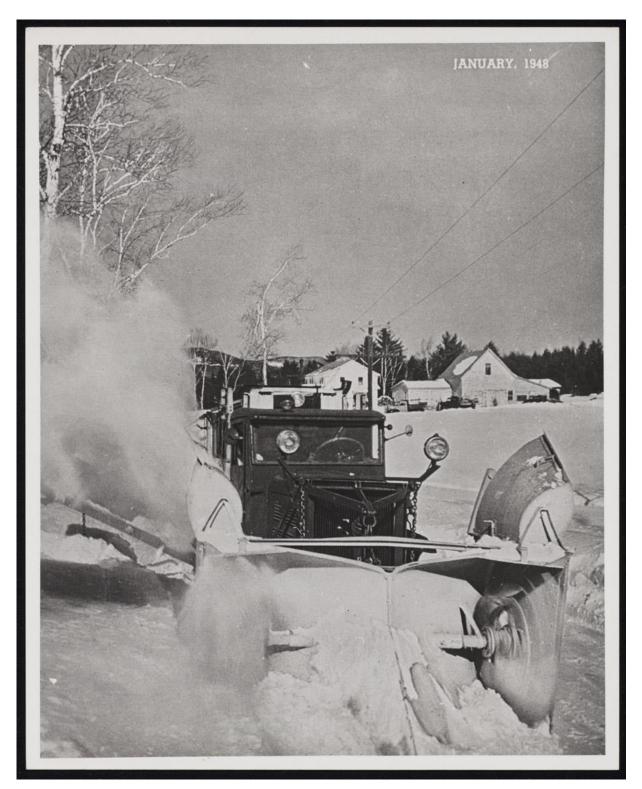
Lesson 1.4: New Hampshire's Weather



A Shoveled Path, 1921



Lesson 1.4: New Hampshire's Weather



Snow Plowing, 1948



Lesson 1.4: New Hampshire's Weather



Horse-drawn Snow Roller, 1900 Source: New Hampshire Historical Society



Lesson 1.4: New Hampshire's Weather



Buildings on Mount Washington in Winter, 1870 Source: New Hampshire Historical Society



Lesson 1.4: New Hampshire's Weather



Milk Truck in Ice Tunnel, 1986 Source: New Hampshire Historical Society



Lesson 1.4: New Hampshire's Weather



Tree Service Company Trims Limbs, 1983 Source: New Hampshire Historical Society



Lesson 1.4: New Hampshire's Weather



Ice Storm in Portsmouth, 1886 Source: New Hampshire Historical Society



Extreme Weather Notes

Write your type of weather in the center box. Then, use words and drawings to fill in the other boxes.

Characteristics	Damage caused		
ow can you stay safe?		Other interesting facts	
			00



Weather Notes Answer Key
Guide your students to these or similar facts as you conduct your research.

Floods	
Characteristics	 covering of land by the rise and overflow of a body of water onto normally dry land usually caused by heavy rainfall, from melting ice and snow, from higher than normal ocean waves, or when dams or levees break can be a few inches to higher than a rooftop usually develops over a few days so people have warning but can happen quickly over just a few minutes, which are called flash floods
Damage caused	 flooded and damaged buildings loss of electricity landslides, and mud and silt left behind when flooding recedes unable to use cars and other transportation because of flooded roads
Tips for staying safe	 listen to all safety warnings and evacuate to safe place if told to don't drive, walk, or swim through flooded areas stay off bridges over fast moving water have supplies ready to stay at home for several days or to evacuate don't use electricity in flooded areas and stay out of all flooded water
Ice Storms	
Characteristics	 rain that freezes as it falls or on contact with earth and objects creates layer of ice on trees, power lines, ground, houses occurs at temperatures from 30 to 34 degrees Fahrenheit
Damage caused	 creates a risk of accidents due to slippery roads and walkways heavy ice can knock down trees and power lines, damage homes falling ice and falling objects covered with ice create risk heavy ice can knock out heat, power, and communication services
Tips for staying safe	 stay off roads and walkways and inside until ice melts prepare for power outages by gathering supplies to stay home for several days without power, including food, water, medications, pet needs, extra batteries for flashlights use generators outside only



Lesson 1.4: New Hampshire's Weather

Hurricanes	
Characteristics	 massive storm systems that form over warm ocean waters and move toward land powerful winds over 74 miles per hour, heavy rainfall, storm surges, coastal and inland flooding, tornadoes, and landslides Atlantic hurricane season runs from June 1 to November 30 can affect areas more than 100 miles inland
Damage caused	 heavy rain can cause flooding heavy winds can knock down trees or damage buildings downed trees or other objects can cause power outages, block roads objects blown around by winds can harm people and buildings
Tips for staying safe	 gather needed supplies for at least three days, including food, water, medication, and pets' needs protect your property by decluttering drains and gutters, bringing lightweight objects inside evacuate if told to do so go to designated storm shelter or an interior room for high winds use generators outside only listen for emergency information and alerts do not walk, swim, or drive through flood waters
Blizzards	
Characteristics	 extreme cold and high winds over 56 miles per hour, large amounts of snow can last a few hours or several days inability to see more than a quarter of a mile due to falling or drifting snow
Damage caused	 heavy, deep snow covers roads, walkways risk of car accidents on slippery roads, hypothermia, frostbite, and heart attacks from overexertion from shoveling accidents due to lack of visibility snow and ice can knock down trees, damage homes snow and ice can knock out heat, power, and communication services
Tips for staying safe	 stay indoors, dress warmly, keep extra blankets available when outside, dress warmly and look for signs of hypothermia and frostbite and take care walking on icy ground prepare for power outages by gathering supplies to stay home for several days without power, including food, water, medications, pet needs, extra batteries for flashlights use generators outside only stay off roads but create an emergency kit for your car that includes jumper cables, sand, a flashlight, warm clothes, blankets, bottled water, and non-perishable snacks



Meteorologist Report Planning Sheet

Did you include.....

A script?

Your weather forecast should be about 3–5 minutes long and tell:

- the name of the weather
- the characteristics of the weather
- the damage the weather can cause
- tips on how to stay safe

A visual?

Your visual could be: (choose one!)

- a map of New Hampshire showing where the weather is happening
- a poster with pictures of the weather
- a poster with tips to stay safe
- a short video showing the weather
- anything creative that helps explain what you are talking about

Practice time?

Your group should plan the part each person will read and then practice reading your script as if you are actually presenting. Think about how you will use the visual you created. The more you practice, the better your final presentation will be.

What is your responsibility in this project? What do you need to do?

