

## Assessing with Primary Sources

**Grade Level:** 6

**Standard(s) or Objectives:** CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.6.1: Cite textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.  
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.6.2: Determine a central idea of a text and how it is conveyed through particular details; provide a summary of the text distinct from personal opinions or judgments.

### Library of Congress Resources:



Breaker boys, Woodward Coal Mines, Kingston, PA.  
Created/published in 1900 by Detroit Publishing Co.

<http://www.loc.gov/pictures/resource/det.4a07285/>

### Topic Background:

Children have always worked, often exploited and under less than healthy conditions. Industrialization, the Great Depression and the vast influx of poor immigrants in the 19th and 20th centuries, made it easy to justify the work of young children.

Excerpted from:

<http://www.loc.gov/teachers/classroommaterials/lessons/child-labor/>

### Source(s) Used:

The source used for this assessment is a photograph from the Detroit Publishing Company. The photograph was taken at the Woodward Coal Mines in Kingston, PA.

### Answer Key:

Question 1: a

Question 2: a

**Directions:** Look at the photograph below and answer the questions that follow.

**Breaker Boys, Woodward Coal Mines, Kingston, PA**



**Question 1:** What specific evidence from the picture best supports the following claim? (CCSS.RI.6.1)

**Claim:** Young boys had to work in terrible working conditions.

- a) The building looks unsafe and the boys look extremely dirty.
- b) The building looks unsafe but the boys look well dressed.
- c) The boys look extremely dirty.
- d) The boys have to work underground.

**Question 2:** Which statement best reflects the picture's central idea? (CCSS.RI.6. 2)

- a) Because of the economy, boys had to work in harsh conditions.
- b) The boys worked because they didn't want to go to school.
- c) The boys chose to work in the mines because it was fun.
- d) Because of their large families, the boys had to work.