



# Curiosity Corner

## Treasures from the FCS Archives

Welcome to **Treasures from the FCS Archives**, a repository of resources for teachers and history enthusiasts! Every month, we are sharing photos, artifacts, documents and other treasures for you to review, discuss and discover. We encourage you to click the links, scan the photos and dig deeper into these treasures, all of which can be found in the Fulton County Schools Archives. Enjoy!

### HMONG AMERICANS: AN IMMIGRATION STORY



Hmong Paj ntaub (Story Quilt), FCS Archives 1992.23.7

When we as Americans honor what distinguishes us—one from another—we collectively take part in commemorating a long history of immigration that has defined who we are today. To be proud of our diversity is to recognize that it has come from all over the world—over a long period of time—to create a new culture, while simultaneously celebrating the origins of old traditions created elsewhere.

This edition of *Curiosity Corner* celebrates this history by featuring a collection of Hmong story quilts located at the Teaching Museum South. Called **Paj ntaub** (pronounced 'pan dau'), these textiles tell the story of **the Hmong**, a people from Southeast Asia who overcame political exclusion in their homeland, fought bravely alongside Americans during the Vietnam War and suffered greatly as refugees in the aftermath. But it also recognizes their culture as one that has thrived in its new home—a result of a dedication to preserving a past, while reinventing themselves as Hmong Americans.

The immigrant experience is different with every group and individual that comes to the U.S. Some, like the Hmong, were welcomed as allies; while others have met with more resistance. Regardless, their stories are preserved in a variety of ways—through books, as oral histories and even stitched into textiles.

#### Curiosity in the Classroom: *A Closer Look*

Click on the image above for a higher resolution jpeg. Ask students to carefully and quietly study the image.

##### Ask students:

- What do you see?
- What do you see that makes you say that?
- What activities do you see taking place? What do you see that makes you say that?
- Where location is depicted in this image? What do you see that makes you say that?
- Who might have made this quilt?
- Why do you think they made this quilt?

After prompting student observations and curiosity, guide students through discovering answers to their questions through the text on this main page and provided links.

#### Lesson Ideas & Links:

[Elementary School Connections](#)

[Related Primary Sources](#)

[Middle School Connections](#)

[Ask the Teaching Museum](#)

[High School Connections](#)

[Additional Online Resources](#)

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**TEACHING MUSEUM**  
Fulton County Schools

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For more information and resources or to connect with staff at the **FCS Archives**, contact us at [archives@fultonschools.org](mailto:archives@fultonschools.org)