

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!

WORLD LETTERS: THE AMERICAN TRAVELOGUE FOR STUDENTS



In the 1930s, most of the world was too distant and inaccessible for the average American to experience. Although travel had become a widely popular hobby by then, the reality was that few people could actually afford to tour for leisure, especially in the midst of the Great Depression. Learning about diverse cultures and exotic destinations required books and newspapers; that is, until a school teacher from East Aurora, New York established a company in 1932, known simply as *World Letters Incorporated*.

This edition of *Curiosity Corner* features a *World Letters* travelogue from 1937-38, which once belonged to the students of North Avenue School in Fulton County. The notebook is filled with letters from across the world, each one describing a faraway land through the lens of an American traveler, [George Pierrot](#), whose artful depictions and insights allowed students back home to actually experience the world from their own classrooms.

This journey took its audience across many borders during a pivotal time in history. Many of these imagined lines have since been redrawn and their places renamed, proving that [the 1930s](#) was indeed a time marked by much economic, cultural and political changes—changes that were about to determine the future of the world forever.



For more information and resources or to connect with staff at the FCS Archives, contact us at archives@fultonschools.org



George Pierrot (pictured, 1937) traveled for eight and a half months and covered 16,479 miles—all to bring the world's diverse cultures to grammar school students back home in the US. George Pierrot's incredible journey across three continents is captured here. **Click on the map above** and follow Pierrot's fascinating trek, through his artful narratives and images from 1937-38.

Curiosity in the Classroom: *A Closer Look*

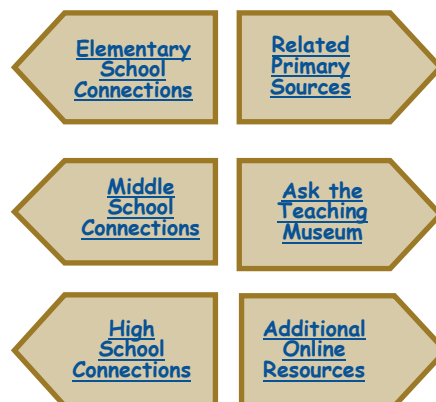
Click on the image above for a higher resolution jpeg. Ask students to carefully and quietly study the image.

Ask students:

- What do you see?
- What do you see that makes you say that?
- When was this photograph taken? What do you see that makes you say that?
- Where was this photograph taken? What do you see that makes you say that?
- Who are these individuals and what are they doing?
- Who might have taken this photo?
- Why was this photo taken?

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: Connecting to Standards



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