

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!

INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY: THE CUTTING EDGE OF EDUCATION



Viewlex Previewer Jr.
filmstrip viewer, 1972

Fulton County Schools Archives

The technological revolution, which has changed the world so dramatically over the last century and a half, has also changed the classroom, impacting the ways in which teachers teach and students learn. Imagine a world without cell phones or computers. You might think it a difficult place in which to live since we have all these devices at our fingertips today. But whether students were taught using an abacus or an “app,” the goal has always been to prepare them for the world in which they will work and live.

This edition of *Curiosity Corner* features the [Viewlex Previewer Jr.](#) which was used by students in the 1970s and is an example of one of many instructional devices used in Fulton County Schools over the past 150 years. From chalk slates and lantern slides to the latest in [computers](#) and Artificial Intelligence, [the history of instructional technology](#) provides us a [timeline](#) of commercial innovations, which occurred inside and outside the classroom.

With this evolution in educational tech comes new challenges. [Fulton County Schools’ Instructional Technology Department](#) has embraced these changes through the dedication of 300 teachers and technology experts. Since 2013, the [Vanguard team](#) has led the way as the district’s ambassadors of technology.



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

Curiosity in the Classroom: *A Closer Look*

Close study of this 50-year old viewfinder is a great segue for students to compare/contrast it with similar devices they are familiar with today. [Use this link](#) to see multiple views of the device and learn how it functions. After students review the information, ask them:

- Describe the viewlex device.
- What types of things would a student watch on this device?
- Name devices that you use today that are used for a similar purpose. How are they alike and how are they different?
- This device uses an electric bulb to create light. What are other devices that use alternative light sources, such as the sun?

Review the instructional [technology timeline](#) with students. Have students select and research a historic item from the timeline. How might this historic technology have impacted the design and functionality of future devices?

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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