

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!

CIVIL WAR MEDICAL KIT



Civil War—Era Medical Kit, Teaching Museum North, Roswell
FIC.2016.55

This month's Curiosity Corner focuses on a nineteenth-century medical kit, currently on display at the Teaching Museum North in Roswell. Kits like this one offer us a glimpse into how the sick and wounded were cared for during the **Civil War** and how **doctor's and nurses** functioned both during battles and in between them.

Many of the doctors who carried these types of cases were volunteers who rushed to fill the urgent need created by a war that caused more human suffering than anyone on either side could have anticipated. Travelling alongside the troops, sleeping in the same camps, they treated the sick and wounded in makeshift **hospitals**, sometimes performing the most critical **surgeries** in tents or on open ground. Along with a small corps of military surgeons, these brave men and women made up an "army behind the army;" part of a military medical establishment that still exists today.

While a first glance at the instruments in the image reveal a time well before **modern medicine**, they do help illustrate its origins – a time when little was known about what caused infections, the importance of sterilization and the reason diseases were contagious. As we consider how important medical care is for all of us today, it is worthwhile to look back at where it all started.

Curiosity in the Classroom: *A Closer Look*

Double click on the image above or [here](#) for a high resolution JPEG to project for your students. Without telling students the title, context or date of these objects, ask students to look closely at the image.

- What do you see?
- What do you see that makes you say that?
- Is there anything that is surprising or unusual?
- What customs or norms can you observe?
- How does this photograph support or challenge your prior knowledge of Atlanta in the early 20th century?

Click here for a [closer look](#) viewing guide.

Extend the analysis: Historic Oakland Cemetery has a wealth of information on Atlanta's past. Have students study this [Confederate Burial Records](#) document and answer the included question:

- What can we learn about life in Atlanta during the Civil War from these two primary sources?



Lesson Ideas & Links: Connecting to Standards

[Elementary School Connections](#)

[Related Primary Sources](#)

[Middle School Connections](#)

[Ask the Teaching Museum](#)

[High School Connections](#)

[Additional Online Resources](#)

TEACHING MUSEUM • NEW GEORGIA Encyclopedia
Fulton County Schools

For more information and resources or to connect with staff at the **Teaching Museum**, contact archives@fultonschools.org