Curiosity Corner

TREASURES FROM THE FCS MUSEUM & ARCHIVES

Welcome to
***Treasures from the FCS Teaching Museum & 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!

SEPTEMBER 2026

COLLECTING STORIES: A TEACHING MUSEUM HISTORY



Photo from Oral History, August 21, 2026. Right to left: Teaching Museum veterans Betty Ann Wylie, Cathy Kaemmerlen, and Mary Jane Stone speak to Archivist, Mike Santrock, about their long careers working as artists for the Teaching Museum.

To view the oral history, click here. (YouTube, 14:55)

Welcome to the new look *Curiosity Corner*—a celebration of our museum's 35th year of service to our students and community. This edition features an oral history (interview) with three of our Teaching Museum Artists as its primary source. After all, who better to tell the story of our beloved institution than the people who have dedicated over thirty years of service to it? And what an unlikely story it is: the birth of a museum in a public school district—designed from the ground up by educators.

Our story begins in 1985, when a state law signed by Georgia Governor Joe Frank Harris, overhauled how education is funded throughout the state, setting off a chain reaction that led to one of the largest preservation efforts ever conducted by a public school system.

Called the Janus Project, this campaign was initiated by the Fulton County Board of Education in the late 1980s. It brought together the efforts of both staff and volunteers from across Fulton County, whose tireless work created two Teaching Museums— one to serve the north portion of the county, the other for the south.

And while the history of this two-museums-in-one endures here, we present our story at a time of great transition—a time dedicated to combining these two sites into one; a time for creating new experiences; a time to reflect on our past, while looking ahead at our future.

TEACHING MUSEUM & Archives
FULTON COUNTY SCHOOLS

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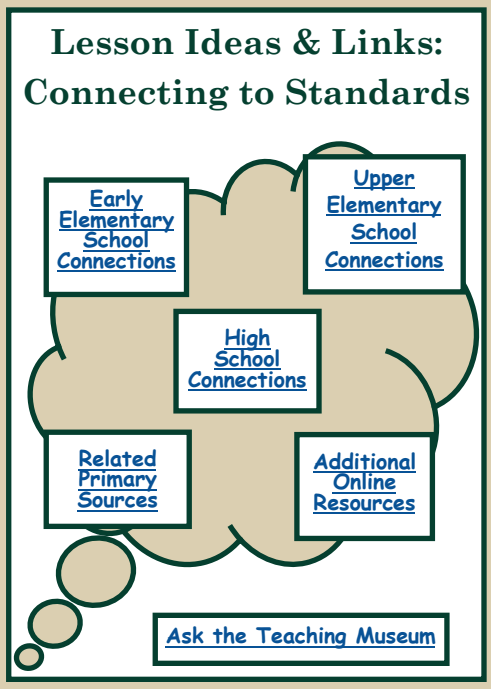
Curiosity in the Classroom: *A Closer Look*

Oral history is a method of gathering, preserving, and interpreting the memories and voices of people who witnessed or participated in past events. Play the oral history excerpt for students. Pause at each natural speaking break to allow students time to complete the Hear-Think-Wonder strategy adopted from Project Zero's See, Think, Wonder thinking routine.

- ***Hear*: Ask students to record words, phrases, details, or background sounds they notice. Encourage them to make quick sketches if helpful.**
- **Think: Ask students what the audio makes them think about. Prompt them to identify themes and consider what questions the interviewer may have asked.**
- **Wonder: Ask students to record questions that arise from the recording and additional questions they would like to ask the speaker.**

Facilitate a brief discussion after listening, allowing students to share observations, interpretations, and questions.

Lesson Ideas & Links: Connecting to Standards



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