



Foundations

April 2008

2008 **RIP It** Summer Institute

"History is more than what happened in the past, it is more than just finding documents and learning facts, it's a way of thinking and a set of skills." NHD

The St. George's Foundation is busy preparing for our first 'RIP It' Summer Institute. We are pleased to announce that Masterworks Foundation is our co-sponsor. 'Bringing History to Life' with Art will use sketching, blogging and site visits to teach students to view art as artifact.

We emailed registration flyers last week. If you did not receive one or are interested in volunteering, please email Leondra Burchall, Director of Education, edofficertsgf@logic.bm

A New Face

Thanks to Advocates for Bermuda's Children (ABC) The St. George's Foundation's website is getting a facelift. The new site will feature two new educational initiatives: a 'Digital Field Trip' of sites in St. George's and 'A Day in the Life' series featuring audio and video vignettes of life in old Bermuda. Teachers will also be able to access **RIP It** workshop materials and other teaching tools.

The website is scheduled to go 'live' in late July, just in time for 'Bringing History to Life with Art' and the new school year.



TEACHING STRATEGY:

What's In Your Pocket?

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Artifacts are objects made or used by human beings. The list of possible historical artifacts is virtually endless — works of art, clothing, tools, toys, maps, furniture, books, and letters. Historians carefully analyse these objects, which enable us to discover our connections to previous generations. Human beings create and use artifacts to express relationships between communities and their past.

In this lesson, students bring small objects from home in their pockets. They then analyse the objects and discuss what information the objects reveal about the daily lives of young people in the twenty-first century.

Don't forget:

the BNG's Poetry Week May 5-9

A week of creative writing workshops for students of all ages. Contact BNG Education Director Lisa Howie at education@bng.bm to book your school group.

1 LESSON Day 1

The day before the lesson, conduct a brief classroom discussion about historical artifacts and what information they can reveal about the people who left them behind. Ask students to imagine that, 200 years from now, an archaeologist uncovers the remains of our current culture. Ask them to imagine what stories the objects might tell future historians about their lives in the early 21st century.

As homework, have each student bring three objects (each small enough to fit in a pocket) that would give future historians information about their daily life today. As a class, discuss a variety of potential artifacts/objects - bills, coins, receipts, notes or reminders, house keys, toys, lip balm or even pagers or cell phones. [Note to Teacher: Plan to have a few items available for students who do not bring objects from home. Paper clips, pencils, magnets, books, or other classroom items will work just fine.]

2 Lesson Day 2

Tell students "in your pockets today, you are carrying objects from the early 21st century. If historians 200 years from now found and studied those items, what do you think they would learn about you and your daily lives?"

Review with students the meaning of the terms "historic artifact," "object", and "primary source." Explain that, just as they have items in their pockets today, children in the past also carried personal items.

Divide students into groups of four. Have students in each small group place their objects on a desk. Have them take turns explaining why they selected the artifact/objects they brought to class.

