



ALBUM [THE WHEELS ON THE BUS...PRIMARY SOURCES FOR K - 3RD LEARNERS](#)

Album Description

When introducing primary sources to any learner, not just the young, having images that are familiar yet not is a gateway to deeper interest and engagement. There are many topics to explore, this one is the SCHOOL BUS.

Virtually every school public or private has a school bus of some kind. But when did school buses get their start? Turns out, it was way back in the [19th century](#) with School Wagons that bounced and rattled the kids to school. These gave way to elongated and covered pickup truck like contraptions that eventually became the Bluebird yellow bus that patrol the streets of America today.

One activity for little (or big) learners is to print sets of images of school buses from various decades, including school wagons, and have the students attempt to sort them into chronological order. This will, inevitably, lead to "I Wonder" questions.

Don't forget to include at least ONE story from the Magic School Bus series. School buses are, indeed, magic because they transport us on field trips!!!

TRANSYLVANIA, LA. JRC



Teaching Notes:

School bus or not?

Reference Link: <https://www.loc.gov/item/2017738702/>

- Carrying children home from school by wagon and mules near Transylvania Project, Louisiana, 1939

Teaching Notes:

You could even throw in a photo like this one to promote creative "What if?" questions.



[Farm children walking to one-room schoolhouse with lunch pails, Nebraska](#)



Teaching Notes:

Love this simple yet such a good lesson for the little historian. Kids would love this!

Teaching Notes:



[Michelle Zupan](#), I think your suggestion for chronological ordering would work well for little and big learners. "One activity for little (or big) learners is to print sets of images of school buses from various decades, including school wagons, and have the students attempt to sort them into chronological order. This will, inevitably, lead to "I Wonder" questions." And I would add this image of a broken down school bus taking African American children to a segregated school to the group. Put into the context of the 1950s, it would surely lead to questions about racism in education. The image is copyright restricted but is found in the [Brown vs. Board at Fifty](#) exhibit so teachers or students can print or enlarge from there. I am thinking this would make an excellent Q-Focus for an QFT inquiry.




Teaching Notes:



[Michelle Zupan](#) I had just been looking at school buses. I love your idea about having the learners sort them by decade. What a great post, thank you for sharing.



Teaching Notes:

You caught my attention here  [Michelle Zupan](#) ! There is something about school buses that always draws me in. Great lesson idea! I like - starting from the familiar *yet not*.



Teaching Notes:

How did this school bus get from place to place to pick up students?

Reference Link: <https://www.loc.gov/item/2017780863/>

- Old school bus. Williams County, North Dakota

Contributor Names

- Lee, Russell, 1903-1986, photographer

Created / Published

- 1937 Oct

MODIFIED SCHOOL BUS



Teaching Notes:

Another old school bus...what could this be used for?

Hint: in some places they are used to haul a fruit that is big and heavy, green on the outside and red on the inside, and we love to eat it in the summer time

Reference Link: <http://www.loc.gov/item/cmns000833/>

Contributor Names

- Hufford, Mary, 1952- (Photographer)

Created / Published

- 1997/08

Subject Headings

- - August
- - Summer
- - Customized vehicles
- - Qualitative excess
- - Photographs
- - Ethnography
- - West Virginia -- Logan County -- Man



Genre

- Photographs
- Ethnography

Repository

- American Folklife Center

Digital Id

- <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.afc/afccmns.mhc05818>

ABANDONED SCHOOL BUS OCCUPIED BY TWO WORKERS FROM FORT BRAGG, NORTH



Teaching Notes:

What other uses can you think of for old school buses?

Reference Link: <http://www.loc.gov/item/2017793674/>

Contributor Names

- Delano, Jack, 1914-1997, photographer

Created / Published

- 1941 Mar.

Subject Headings

- - United States--North Carolina--Cumberland County--Fort Bragg

Genre

- Safety film negatives

Notes



- - Title and other information from caption card.
- - Transfer; United States. Office of War Information. Overseas Picture Division. Washington Division; 1944.
- - More information about the FSA/OWI Collection is available at <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.pnp/pp.fsaowi>
- - Temp. note: usf34batch5
- - Film copy on SIS roll 3, frame 851.

Repository

- Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division Washington, D.C. 20540 USA
<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.pnp/pp.print>

Digital Id

- fsa 8c04749 //hdl.loc.gov/loc.pnp/fsa.8c04749



Teaching Notes:

In what decade do you think this photo was taken? What are some clues? What season is it?

Reference Link: <http://www.loc.gov/item/ncr001537/>

Contributor Names

- Wilson, William A. (William Albert), 1933- (Photographer)

Created / Published

- May, 1978

Subject Headings

- - Education
- - School buses
- - Activities
- - Paradise Valley School
- - Photographs
- - Ethnography

Genre

- Photographs
- Ethnography



Repository

- American Folklife Center

Digital Id

- <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.afc/afc96ran.46474>



Teaching Notes:

School bus or not a school bus? What clues help you decide?

Reference Link: <http://www.loc.gov/item/2014690221/>

Contributor Names

- Bain News Service, publisher

Created / Published

- [between ca. 1910 and ca. 1915]

Genre

- Glass negatives

Notes

- - Forms part of: George Grantham Bain Collection (Library of Congress).
- - Title from unverified data provided by the Bain News Service on the negatives or caption cards.
- - General information about the George Grantham Bain Collection is available at <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.pnp/pp.ggbain>
- - Additional information about this photograph might be available through the Flickr Commons project at http://www.flickr.com/photos/library_of_congress/2163052211 *External*



Repository

- Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division Washington, D.C. 20540 USA
<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.pnp/pp.print>

Digital Id

- ggbain 10237 //hdl.loc.gov/loc.pnp/ggbain.10237

EVENING STAR

, IMAGE 153



Teaching Notes:

School bus safety is always a concern. Drivers don't always respect the laws. This school superintendent had a good solution for the parents. What do you think about it?

Reference Link: <https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn83045462/1958-03-02/ed-1/seq-153/#date1=1777&sort=relevance&rows=20&words=school-bus&searchType=basic&sequence=0&index=9&state=&date2=1963&proxtext=schoolbus&y=0&x=0&dateFilterTy>

Newspaper: Evening star. [volume] (Washington, D.C.) 1854-1972

Newspaper Link: <https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn83045462/1958-03-02/ed-1/seq-153/#date1=1777&sort=relevanc...>

Image provided by: Library of Congress, Washington, DC

PDF Link: <https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn83045462/1958-03-02/ed-1/seq-153.pdf>

GOATS CONGREGATE NEAR AND IN ONE OF FOUR OLD SCHOOL BUSES AT PRODIGAL



Teaching Notes:

What do you think happens to school buses when they wear out and can't be used for students any longer?

Reference Link: <http://www.loc.gov/item/2017883892/>

Contributor Names

- Highsmith, Carol M., 1946-, photographer

Created / Published

- 2017-11-15.

Subject Headings

- - United States--North Carolina--Durham County--Rougemont
- - America
- - Prodigal Farm
- - Dave Krabbe
- - Kathryn Spann
- - Goat farms
- - Old school buses



Genre

- Digital photographs--Color--2010-2020

Notes

- - Title, date and keywords based on information provided by the photographer.
- - This is a working, 97-acre longtime tobacco farm turned to goat raising (once the ruminants had eaten the rampant poison ivy) that produces farmstead cheeses, breads, produce and specialty items. The animals don't live in the buses, but they retreat there during rainstorms (goats curiously dislike getting wet) and other severe weather.
- - Included in the Prodigal Farm herd (in 2017) are 85 "milkers," 165 kids born this year, and three breeding rams.
- - Purchase; Carol M. Highsmith Photography, Inc.; 2017; (DLC/PP-2016:103-7).
- - Forms part of: Carol M. Highsmith's America Project in the Carol M. Highsmith Archive.
- - Credit line: Photographs in Carol M. Highsmith's America Project in the Carol M. Highsmith Archive, Library of Congress, Prints and Photographs Division.

Repository

- Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division Washington, D.C. 20540 USA
<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.pnp/pp.print>

Digital Id

- highsm 47218 //hdl.loc.gov/loc.pnp/highsm.47218

EVENING STAR

5, IMAGE 170



Teaching Notes:

Do you and your teacher have to wash the school bus at the end of the day?

Reference Link: <https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn83045462/1955-04-24/ed-1/seq-170/#date1=1777&index=0&rows=20&words=schoolbus&searchType=basic&sequence=0&state=&date2=1963&page=1>

Newspaper: Evening star. [volume] (Washington, D.C.) 1854-1972

Newspaper Link: <https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn83045462/1955-04-24/ed-1/seq-170/#date1=1777&index=0&rows=...>

Image provided by: Library of Congress, Washington, DC

PDF Link: <https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn83045462/1955-04-24/ed-1/seq-170.pdf>

TIP ESTES

INDIANA



Teaching Notes:

What do you think about how these student had to get onto the bus?

Reference Link: <http://www.loc.gov/item/2017763843/>

Contributor Names

- Lee, Russell, 1903-1986, photographer

Created / Published

- 1937 Apr.

Subject Headings

- - United States--Indiana--Benton County--Fowler
- - Tip Estes--Indiana

Genre



- Nitrate negatives

Notes

- - Title and other information from caption card.
- - Transfer; United States. Office of War Information. Overseas Picture Division. Washington Division; 1944.
- - More information about the FSA/OWI Collection is available at <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.pnp/pp.fsaowi>
- - Temp. note: usf34batch1

Repository

- Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division Washington, D.C. 20540 USA dcu
<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.pnp/pp.print>



Teaching Notes:

This is a tricky one. When was this one used? Was it for a big school or a small school?

Reference Link: <http://www.loc.gov/item/2018741302/>

Contributor Names

- Gottscho-Schleisner, Inc., photographer

Created / Published

- 1942 May 29.

Subject Headings

- - Religious education
- - United States--New York (State)--Suffern

Genre

- Acetate negatives

Notes

- - Title and date from original negative sleeves or photographer's registers.
- - Credit line: Gottscho-Schleisner Collection, Library of Congress, Prints and Photographs Division.



- - General information about the Gottscho-Schleisner Collection is available at:
<https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.pnp/pp.gsc>
- - Forms part of: Gottscho-Schleisner Collection (Library of Congress)
- - Temp. note: Batch four.

Repository

- Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division Washington, D.C. 20540 USA

Digital Id

- gsc 5a08738 <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.pnp/gsc.5a08738>



Teaching Notes:

When were these buses used? How are they similar to the ones we ride today? How are they different?

Reference Link: <http://www.loc.gov/item/2017783111/>

Contributor Names

- Lee, Russell, 1903-1986, photographer

Created / Published

- 1939 Apr.

Subject Headings

- - United States--Texas--Cherokee County--Wells
- - Small towns--Texas

Genre

- Safety film negatives

Notes



- - Title and other information from caption card.
- - Transfer; United States. Office of War Information. Overseas Picture Division. Washington Division; 1944.
- - More information about the FSA/OWI Collection is available at <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.pnp/pp.fsaowi>
- - Temp. note: usf34batch4
- - Film copy on SIS roll 22, frame 1917.

Repository

- Library of Congress Prints & Photographs Division Washington, D.C. 20540 USA
<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.pnp/pp.print>

Digital Id

- fsa 8b21706 //hdl.loc.gov/loc.pnp/fsa.8b21706



Teaching Notes:

What decade is this from? How do you know?

Reference Link: <http://www.loc.gov/item/2016839714/>

Created / Published

- [1925]

Genre

- Glass negatives

Notes

- - Title from unverified data provided by the National Photo Company on the negative or negative sleeve.
- - Date from negatives in same range.
- - Gift; Herbert A. French; 1947.
- - General information about the National Photo Company collection is available at <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.pnp/pp.npc>



- - This glass negative might show streaks and other blemishes resulting from a natural deterioration in the original coatings.
- - Temp note: Batch three.

Repository

- Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division Washington, D.C. 20540 USA
<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.pnp/pp.print>

Digital Id

- npcc 13446 //hdl.loc.gov/loc.pnp/npcc.13446