



Weaving a Storyline Across 250 Years

Educator Guide One-Pager

STUDENTS INVESTIGATE THE DECORATIVE ARTS TRUST'S FREE DIGITAL RESOURCE **COLLECTING250**, FEATURING AMERICAN OBJECTS, THROUGH THE LENS OF **STORY**

PREPARATION/Objectives

The students will:

- Investigate and describe ways that objects prompt memories and stories.
- Research the people and culture associated with selected objects to explain how those objects came to be, where they have been, what purposes they have served, and who has cared for them.
- Create historical fiction narratives that connect to their own personal experiences through the interrelation of historical and personal stories.

INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES

Investigate: Engage and Explore

Session/Day 1: **Discuss Objects and Their Stories**. Students view and offer structured responses to objects found throughout the Collecting250 website.

Investigate: Make Connections

Sessions/Days 2 and 3: **Plan a Historical Narrative**. Students create storyboards for historical fiction narratives inspired by their explorations.

Reflect and Refine

Sessions/Days 4 and 5: **Tell Your Story in a Chosen Form**. Students create final versions of their historical fiction narratives, following a format of their choosing.

Reflect and Assess

Session/Day 6: **Self-Reflection and Self-Assessment**. Students rate how well their stories meet the lesson objectives.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- **The Decorative Arts Trust** has a wealth of online exhibits in addition to **Collecting250**. Each exhibit could provide inspiration for a lesson. Go to the Trust's website at <https://www.decorativeartstrust.org>, click Online Learning, and then Exhibits from the dropdown menu.

EXTENSION

- **Studio Experience**: Diorama Gallery curated with artifacts included in students' historical narratives.