Records or Stories?

Sort clues about the past.

3.H.7 "Distinguish between fact and fiction in historical accounts by comparing documentary sources on historical figures and events with fictional characters and events in stories."

NAME _____ DATE _____

PAST RECORD

A source is a real record from the past. It gives evidence about people or events.

A museum keeps a ticket from the 1893 Chicago World's Fair.

INVENTED STORY

A story can include people or events a writer made up. It may also mention real history.

A made-up tale tells of a cloud that gives a baker secret recipes.

1 SORT

8 items

Read each item and circle SOURCE or STORY.

1.	A 1912 newspaper reports that the Titanic sank.	SOURCE STORY
2.	In a novel, an invented child has tea with George Washington.	SOURCE STORY
3.	In a story, a flying horse races the Wright brothers' plane.	SOURCE STORY
4.	A 1955 police report records Rosa Parks's arrest.	SOURCE STORY
5.	A photograph shows the Wright brothers' plane in flight in 1903.	SOURCE STORY
6.	In a novel, an invented sailor hides a gold coin on the Titanic.	SOURCE STORY
7.	An 1863 newspaper prints Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation.	SOURCE STORY
8.	A letter from George Washington tells about his soldiers during the Revolutionary War.	SOURCE STORY

2 PROVE IT

Explain your thinking

Pick two items from Part 1. For each one, tell how you knew where it belonged.

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

3 MAKE YOUR OWN

One of each

Part 2: Pick two numbered items and explain how you knew where each belonged. Part 3: Write one new SOURCE example and one new STORY example about the past.

SOURCE _____

STORY _____

CHALLENGE

Write two sentences about one real event from the past: tell what a source could show, then tell what a story could invent.

ANSWER KEY

Records or Stories?

GRADE 3 · 3.H.7

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	A 1912 newspaper reports that the Titanic sank.	**SOURCE**	A newspaper from that year is a record of a real event.
2	In a novel, an invented child has tea with George Washington.	**STORY**	The novel invents the child and the meeting.
3	In a story, a flying horse races the Wright brothers' plane.	**STORY**	The race with a flying horse is an invented event.
4	A 1955 police report records Rosa Parks's arrest.	**SOURCE**	The police report records a real event.
5	A photograph shows the Wright brothers' plane in flight in 1903.	**SOURCE**	The photograph is a record of a real flight.
6	In a novel, an invented sailor hides a gold coin on the Titanic.	**STORY**	The novel invents the sailor and the event, even though the Titanic was real.
7	An 1863 newspaper prints Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation.	**SOURCE**	The newspaper preserves the text of a real historical document.
8	A letter from George Washington tells about his soldiers during the Revolutionary War.	**SOURCE**	Washington's letter is a record from the past.

PART 2 · PROVE IT

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item.

PART 3 · MAKE YOUR OWN (SAMPLE ANSWERS)

- **SOURCE**: A 1920 newspaper reports that women voted in a U.S. election.
- **STORY**: In a novel, an invented child sneaks into an ancient Egyptian palace.

Challenge: A 1969 photograph shows an astronaut on the Moon. In an invented story, a child flies there to meet the astronaut.

For Part 2, accept explanations that name the clue in each chosen item. For example, item 1 names a newspaper from the time of a real event, while item 2 says the child is invented for a novel.