In the Field--Researching the Food Exhibit

with curator Rayna Green

Questions—to help students build questioning skills, have them generate both basic understanding and thought questions before and after the show. Here are some example questions.

Basic Understanding Questions—questions that have a simple answer

- What is an oral history?
- What is a molino?
- What is the difference between field research and library research?

Thought Questions—questions that require research on multiple perspectives and a great deal of thought

- Why do you think curators would want to do field research?
- Who in your family would you interview in an oral history, and why?

Related Resources—for continued instruction or resources for your students’ research

National Museum of American History:

- Food: Transforming the American Table, 1950-2000
  http://americanhistory.si.edu/food-introduction

History Explorer:

- Bon Appetit! Julia Child’s Kitchen at the Smithsonian
  http://historyexplorer.si.edu/resource/?key=1786
- 1880s Agricultural Nation Classroom Activity Guide
  http://historyexplorer.si.edu/resource/?key=4187

Thinkfinity:

- ChooseMyPlate.gov
  http://scisponetlinks.com/tools/choosemyplategov/

National Standards—from the National Center for History in the Schools

- U.S. History—Era 9: Postwar United States (1945 to early 1970s)
- U.S. History—Era 10: Contemporary United States (1968 to the present)

Have your students email their question, research steps, and answer to thinkfinity@si.edu

We’ll choose exemplars to display on our podcast webpage!

Find this podcast and more at http://americanhistory.si.edu/connect/podcasts
Name:  

Date:  

Period:  

Topic:  

_Pre-Listening vocabulary—define these words:_  

word:  

word:  

_Pre-Listening (leave space after your questions to answer them as you listen):_  

What **basic understanding** questions do you have about this topic?  

What **thought** questions do you have about this topic?  

*Post-Listening:*  

What new **thought** questions do you have?  

Of all your thought questions, which few are especially important to the topic? Why?  

Which is the most important thought question? Why?  

What steps would you take to find the answer to the most important thought question?  

_Give it a try and email your question, research steps, and answer to historyteachers@si.edu_