

# Growing up in 1918 Calumet

What can you learn from the historic record? What can sources tell us about the lives of people living a century ago? Historic narratives are based on these sources. Students will get a chance to investigate these sources and explore the narratives they can create using them in these lessons.

## Audience

Middle & High School  
Grades 6-12

## Subjects

Social Sciences

## Concepts

- Social Science Standards 6.1.2, 6.1.3, 6.3.1, P1.2, P1.4, P2.1-4

## Skills

- Investigate the value of a variety of historical records
- Explore the lives of students in 1918.
- Identify gaps in the historical record

## Materials

- [The Keweenaw Time Traveler Digital Atlas](#)
- ⇒ Keweenaw Time Traveler [About the Data Pages](#)
- Create worksheets with questions for students based on part A of the lesson.

## OBJECTIVES

- ◆ Students will reflect on the differences between their lives and the lives of students living in 1918 Calumet.
- ◆ Students will investigate historic sources and understand their value in understanding the past.

## ASSESSMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- ◆ Active participation in group discussions
- ◆ Answers to historic records questions in educator created worksheet

## BACKGROUND

In this lesson students will first investigate the living conditions of Angeline Arko at the age of 10 in Calumet. History is often viewed from a macro perspective, focusing on themes and major events. This broad scope can make history feel sterile and inaccessible to people living with modern day comforts and conveniences. This lesson focuses on the micro perspective of the daily life of a young woman living in 1918 Calumet.

## GETTING READY

Educators should be familiar with the functions of the Keweenaw Time Traveler. They should be capable of searching for individuals, exploring the records available for each individual, be aware of the data provided by the variety of historic maps that are part of the Keweenaw Time Traveler Interface.

Educators should also familiarize themselves with the sources provided by the Keweenaw Time Traveler in understanding the datasets and maps within the Time Traveler. These sources can be found in the [‘About the Data’](#) page.

## DOING THE ACTIVITY

### Part A - Exploring Historic Records

- Students will open [keweenawhistory.com](#) and search for Angeline Arko
- Students will explore records that help them to understand about Angeline's home and life in 1918 using KeTT records & Maps and how it changes over time.
- Educators should have students answer questions similar to the following:
  - ⇒ How big is her home? What is it made from? How is it heated?
  - ⇒ Who lives with her? What jobs do her family members have to pay for their house?
- Next students should explore Angeline Arko's 1918 School Records
  - ⇒ They should investigate the school building answering the following questions: Building materials, heat, lights?, size? Is it located near anything that may be loud or distracting?
  - ⇒ Next they should explore her class records answering: Who is her teacher?

What grade is she in? How many classmates does she have? Who lives the closest to her?

### Part B - Class Reflection and Critical Assessment of Historical Sources and Gaps in the Historic Record

- As a class students should discuss what these records can tell them about the life of Angeline Arko. Teachers may place their ideas up on the board.
- Students then should discuss what they wish the records could tell them. What parts of Angeline's life are missing from these records? What does she eat? Who are her friends? What are her dreams and plans for her life? These should also be placed on the board.
- As a class a discussion on the incomplete nature of the historical record can wrap up this lesson. What stories are recorded? What stories are missing? Who's stories are often missing?

## EXTENSION ACTIVITY

- Have students search another of Angeline's Classmates
- What do records tell them about their life in comparison to Angeline's?
- Does Angeline or her classmate have more or less data present in the Keweenaw Time Traveler?
- Why are there differences in the amount of data available of different people even if they lived in the same town and went to the same school?

