



# ACTIVITY CHECKLIST



## Q3 • Common Ground & Historical Identity • High School

### Exploring Our Cultural Uniqueness and History Parallel Historical Events

#### Before the Activity

- Review the Activity Overview for this activity.
- Review NM History Museum Timeline and major historical eras.
- Gather print or digital resources for timeline review and journalism basics.
- Prepare instruction on population diversity in NM through time.
- Provide access to historical newspapers and approved digital archives.
- Review expectations for journalism skills, objectivity, and historical accuracy.

#### Timeline Review

- Students review NM timelines (state, regional, local).
- Identify major events across eras and note patterns or population changes.
- Introduce lesser-known histories (Blackdom, Buffalo Soldiers, Asian immigration).
- Students create a local timeline (town, village, or county).
- Students compare their local timeline to the NM timeline.

#### Journalism Foundations

- Review what makes news, purpose of journalism, and structure of articles.
- Introduce concepts of bias, point of view, and historical context.
- Provide sample journalism resources and models.



**NEW MEXICO  
SPIRIT**  
1776 + 2026

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## Historical Newspapers in NM

- Students read one overview of historical periodicals.
- Review archival articles (e.g., Santa Fe Weekly Gazette, 1852).
- Students analyze differences between historical and modern reporting.
- Students identify surprising or unfamiliar topics or language.
- Discuss political or cultural issues present in selected articles.

## Historical Newspaper Article Assignment

*(Students choose one option)*

- Option A: Write an article about an event before 1834 (pre-newspaper era).
- Option B: Choose an event with a historical article and write a new perspective.
- Option C: Choose a historical opinion article and write a counterargument.
- Option D: Choose an article with unclear context and explain it for modern readers.
- Write a 5-paragraph essay explaining why the event matters to NM or U.S. history.

## Historical Accuracy Requirements

- Identify year and context of the event.
- Use period-specific terminology when appropriate.
- Locate or construct plausible quotations from period figures.
- Cite all sources used in the article and essay.
- Provide a bibliography with submission.

## Primary Sources to Provide

- Spanish Archives of New Mexico (1779 and later).
- NM State Library Newspaper Collection.
- NM Historical Newspapers – UNM Digital Repository.
- Newspaper Archive Library Edition (Albuquerque Public Library).
- Chronicling America – Historic American Newspapers.