



## Eye Spy Math Warm-Up



Activity Created by  
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Eye Spy Activity is printed in the book:

**Petri, Gail. (2003). *The American memory Collections from A to Z*. Ohio: Linworth Publishing (p. 103-105).**

The book has detailed instructions and a reproducible student handout.

### Essential Question

How can visual clues increase understanding of Math concepts?

### Understanding Goal

Primary resources foster student media literacy skills such as the ability to identify patterns, pose questions, and connect visual clues to Math concepts.

### As a result of this warm-up activity, participants will

- **know**
  - Strategies for using primary sources in Math.
  - How to locate resources in American Memory and Prints and Photographs.
- **be able to**
  - Analyze primary sources using Math concepts.

### Performance tasks

- Investigate the Library of Congress resources using Math terms.
- Share ideas of classroom applications using the model activities.

### Eye Spy activity for the classroom directions

- Brainstorm math words to use as search terms.
- Encourage students to think about words describing shapes (*octagon, triangle, pentagon, cylinder, square*), large numbers (*thousand, million*), measurement devices (*abacus, ruler, scale, calculator*), and mathematical terms (*intersect, parallel, circumference, diameter*).
- Hunt for images across the American Memory Collections using these terms.
- Print out and mount the images on construction paper. (Make sure to include the image title and summary on the back of the paper.)
- Display the mounted photos on a bulletin board or along a hallway.
- Give the class time to study the display.
- Have each student read his or her “Eye Spy” question aloud.
- Have class members try to be the first to find the correct matching image.