

INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISM

Teacher Tips and Extension Activities

Use these tips and extensions to expand on the mini-lesson. Keep in mind that the mini-lessons are designed to engage all learners, so that they feel confident and see the purpose of analyzing primary sources.

Source check activity: Remind students to check the caption below the source to help figure out whether a source is a primary source.

- **Ask students:** What piece of information about the source do you think is most important to know? Title, author, publisher, place of publication, or year? Explain.

Further investigation: Some students will gravitate more towards the process of analyzing primary sources and skill development, while others may want to take a deeper dive into the content.

1. What additional questions might students have about the content?
2. What evidence does this article provide to researchers who are trying to understand the history of investigative journalism or the Watergate scandal?
3. Have students find a contemporary example of investigative journalism. What evidence has been uncovered by the journalists, and how was it uncovered? What do the journalists still seem to be investigating?
4. Go to bit.ly/jia-wells to compare the Watergate investigation to another milestone of investigative journalism, Ida B. Wells' Red Report on lynching in the United States. How was Wells' approach different? What investigative methods did she use?

Extension activities:

1. Have students research the Watergate reporting of Woodward and Bernstein. What steps did the journalists take immediately after the court hearing described above?
2. More Practice: Go to the Introduction page of Journalism in Action's STEM case study at bit.ly/jia-s. Choose one of the primary sources and complete the See, Think, Wonder questions as well as questions 1-3 from the second page of the mini-lesson.
3. Who else would you want to hear from to learn more about how investigative journalism has changed from the Watergate era through to today?