

Primary and Secondary Source Worksheet Key

- 1) A diary written by a miner named Lucky Noah who lived in Idaho in the 1870's. Primary or Secondary? **Primary: the diary is a firsthand account from the time period**
- 2) A Time Magazine article from 1980 titled "Mining in the Old West". Primary or Secondary? **Secondary: the magazine was not written between 1860-1890**
- 3) The textbook you use in class to study Idaho history has a chapter on mining. Primary or Secondary? **Secondary: A textbook is a summary of other primary and secondary sources**
- 4) An original photograph of a Silver City mine from 1880 that you found in your grandparents photo album. Primary or Secondary? **Primary: the photograph comes from the time period you are studying**
- 5) A gold pan that was used in 1872 that you saw at the Idaho Historical Museum. Primary or Secondary? **Primary: The object was used or manufactured from the time period you are studying**
- 6) A book published in 1992 that you found in the library titled "Digging Deep: The Complete Story of Mining in Idaho." Primary or Secondary? **Secondary: like your textbook, this book was written long after the historical event happened and isn't a firsthand account.**
- 7) A complete copy of an original government document called "Idaho Mining Laws of 1875" that you found on the Idaho Historical Society web site. Primary or Secondary? **Primary: although it is a copy on the web, the original document comes from the time period.**
- 8) A web site called "The Complete Internet Encyclopedia" that has a page about mining. Primary or Secondary? **Secondary: Encyclopedia, book or internet, are typically secondary sources. They use many primary and secondary resources to summarize topics.**