

NEW

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Jr!

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SPECIAL EDITION

Meet Archie, the Jr! Archivist



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Additional Resources and Activities can be found at:



ConsidertheSourceNY.org

Meet Archie, the *Jr!* Archivist

Hello! I'm Archie Beaver. I am a *Jr!* Archivist. Let me explain. "*Jr!*" is the name of the magazine I work on with the people here at the New York State Archives Partnership Trust in Albany. "*Jr!*" is the abbreviation for the word "junior", which means younger. The Trust publishes a magazine called *New York Archives*, and our magazine is the junior (*Jr!*) version. It's just for us kids!

I LOVE history! I like to read and learn about what happened in the past, and I really like historic documents. People who preserve and work with historic documents are called archivists. And since I am young and still in school, I am a junior archivist. But because I work on this magazine I use "*Jr!*" Archivist as my title—get it?

Throughout the year we publish magazines all about New York State history. You can find our magazine inside the adult version of the magazine and online. Teachers can ask for print copies to use at school. We have even more activities and resources online for students and teachers to enjoy.

I bet you're wondering how I ended up being a *Jr!* Archivist. I mean, most beavers become builders. I was born on April 7th in a small pond outside of Albany. One day over breakfast my family was talking about the official mammal of New York State—it's us, the beavers! I was excited about this, and I wanted to know more. I took a trip to the New York State Museum and learned why beavers are such an important part of New York's history. I still wanted to know more, so I made my way to the New York State Archives. They have so many documents... millions! And they all help us to understand our state's history. I wanted to read them all! That's when I had the idea to write a magazine for younger people. I wanted kids across New York State to be able to learn using some of the great documents that tell our state's history.

You can be a *Jr!* archivist too! Start by checking out the issues of *Archives Jr!* magazine. When you find a topic you are really interested in, do some more research. You can check your local library and historical society and use the Internet. Share what you learn with others. You can even download my official *Jr!* Archivist card from our website.

If you have an idea for a topic you'd like to know more about, I'd love to hear from you! You can email me at archedu@nysed.gov. I love hearing from other *Jr!* Archivists!

Your friend,

Archie Beaver

Jr! Archivist

Community Connections

- To learn more about the New York State Archives and meet our state archivist, check out this issue of *Jr!* magazine [considerthesourcenyc.org/new-york-archive-jr/learn-about-archives](https://www.considerthesourcenyc.org/new-york-archive-jr/learn-about-archives)



Gnaw on This



- Archie's birthday is April 7th, which is International Beaver Day!
- Full-size beavers can grow to be 25-35 inches tall and weigh anywhere from 26-65 pounds.
- A beaver's tail is usually about 9-10 inches long and 6 inches wide.
- Archie's favorite food is tree bark, especially from aspen, willow, and red maple trees.
- Archie slaps his tail on the water to communicate with other beavers.



Take a Closer Look

Student Name _____

In most issues of our magazine, page 3 will be "Take a Closer Look". This page is where we look at a document that is connected to our main article.

When we start to look at a document, the first thing we do is just **observe** it. We put a pair of binoculars next to those questions to help you remember to just use what you actually read or see in the document.



Next, we can make an inference or **infer**. This is when we take what we **observed** in the document and put it with our own knowledge (schema) to make a conclusion about what the document might be communicating. We use this symbol to help us remember what **infer** means.



 Let's try it. Let's start by **observing** the photograph below. In the box, list just what you observe.

I Observe:



New York State Archives

Now let's **Infer**.  + 

- What do you think is happening in this photograph?
- When do you think it was taken?
- Where was it taken?
- Use evidence from what you observed to explain your inference.



Learning Activity

In most issues of our magazine page 4 will be a Learning Activity. Sometimes this will be a document, or two. Others it will be something for you to create or write about.

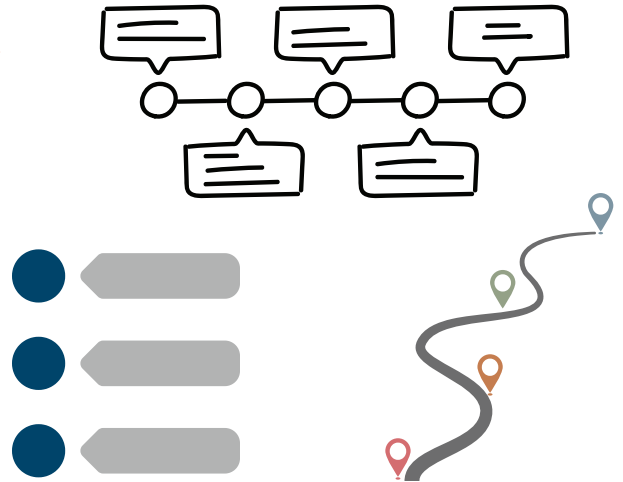
A timeline is a way to show the order in history that different events happened. It helps us to understand how one event might have caused another.

Create your personal timeline!



To create your own personal timeline, you need to start by listing the big events in your life in the order they happened. You might need your family's help to remember some of the events from when you were very young. In our online resources there is an organizer to help you get started.

You can organize and display your timeline in many different ways. You can draw it on a long piece of paper, or glue several pieces of paper together. You can make it online. Adding photos or drawings can make your timeline interesting to look at.



Archie decided to make his timeline by writing each event on a separate cutout. He then strung them on a string. Below are a few of his life events.



If you want to celebrate my birthday with me, check out our online extras for ideas for an "Archie Birthday Bash!"