

Lesson 12:

What Different Accounts: Is this the same place?

Unit 1
Grade 4

Warm Up

A teacher found Pat and Sam in the hallway having a bitter disagreement. The teacher asked Pat what happened. Pat replied, “Sam started it.” The teacher then turned to Sam and asked Sam what happened. Sam replied, “Pat started it.”

Think-Pair-Share: How can you explain why there are two different versions of the same event?

Three Groups

- You will be placed in a group
 - You will also have a number and letter (1a, 1b, 1c, 2a, 2b, 2c, 3a, 3b...)
 - Make sure you remember your group number!
- I am going to give you instructions that you are to read silently to yourself and you do **not** share the instructions with other students

Let's go!

Analyzing Evidence

- Form mixed groups based on the letters you were assigned.
 - A Group
 - 1a, 2a, 3a
 - B Group
 - 1b, 2b, 3b
 - C Group
 - 1c, 2c, 3c

Let's pretend, it is now the year

2062

You are historians!

You have seen our actual school building and it no longer exists. It was torn down long ago and replaced by a new one. As historians, you want to preserve the history of the community in which the school existed. Your first task is to be able to illustrate/explain what the school looked like.

No photos of the school have been found but there are drawings of our school that were kept by a teacher who did a lesson with their students in which the students were asked to draw what their school looked like. They donated the drawings to the local historical society.

You will be able to use the drawings to reconstruct what the school looked like.

Let's Discuss!

1. Are the drawings of the school the same or are they different?
2. If you have never seen the school before, would you be somewhat confused trying to figure out what the building or classroom actually looked like based on the three drawings?
3. From what you know about the lesson, are the drawings accurate representations of what the school looked or looks like?
4. Why might there be different “accounts” or representations (drawings) of what your school looked like?

How is it possible for there to be different accounts of the same event or thing and all of them are credible?

Many students believe that, if there are different accounts of something in the past that one of them must be wrong or the person who created the account was lying. You may be one of them. But it is important to understand that, while this may be true at times, there are also times when there are different and competing accounts, yet no one lied and none of them are wrong.

Do you see how this lesson can help you understand this?