



Firsthand vs. Secondhand Accounts

Today's Standard

4.RI.6 - Compare and contrast a firsthand and secondhand account of the same event or topic; describe the differences in focus and the information provided.

Real-World Applications for this Standard

Comparing news articles and personal diaries; Analyzing historical events from different perspectives; Understanding different viewpoints in biographies and autobiographies

Today I Learned

Today, we learned about the differences between firsthand and secondhand accounts. A firsthand account is written by someone who was there, and a secondhand account is written by someone who learned about it from others.

Common Stumbling Blocks

Sometimes, kids think firsthand and secondhand accounts give the same information. They also might think secondhand accounts aren't as good. Both ideas are wrong. Firsthand accounts are personal, and secondhand accounts give a bigger picture.

Quiz Me

- What is a firsthand account?
- What is a secondhand account?
- How are they different?
- Why is it important to compare them?
- Can you give an example of each?

Help Me

A firsthand account is like a diary where someone writes what they saw or did. A secondhand account is like a news story where the writer tells what happened by talking to people or reading other stories. Both are important to understand the whole story.

