

# Hands-On Archives: Exploring America's Diversity

## Pre-Visit Vocabulary

### Related to the National Archives

**Archives:** A special place where unique one-of-a-kind records are available to research.

**Archivist:** A person specially trained in preserving original materials and helping people obtain them.

**Archival Stacks:** a restricted room for securing and storing original records.

**Inventory:** an itemized list of records

**Microfilm:** a miniature photographic record on film

**Textual Records:** A record that is made of paper.

**Preservation:** to keep up and reserve for personal or special use

**Record:** All books, papers, maps, photographs, machine-readable materials, or other documentary materials that contain valuable information.

### Related to Archival Research

**Alien:** a foreign-born resident who is not a citizen or national of the United States

**Citizen:** A person who is born in the US or who becomes a naturalized citizen of the U.S.

**Federal Census:** A count of the population taken by the government every 10 years. The first census was taken in 1790 according to the U.S. Constitution. Right now the census is available for 1790- 1930. (There is a 72-year privacy restriction on access to population census schedules, which is why 1930 is the latest year currently available.)

**Emigrate:** to leave one's country of residence to settle in another country.

**Immigrant:** an alien admitted into the U.S. as a lawful permanent resident.

**Passenger Arrival (Manifest):** List of persons onboard a ship or plane who are entering this country. The list includes the ship and date of entry along with some other details.

**Naturalization:** The act of investing an alien with the status of a national in a given state; it may be accomplished as the result of voluntary application, special legislative direction, marriage to a citizen, or parental action

