Transportation in Large Cities
Connie Briggs
Sierra Elementary
Arvada, Colorado

OVERVIEW
Students will analyze a historic photograph depicting transportation in a large city to develop an understanding of how science and technology has changed the modes of transportation.

STANDARDS
- History Standard 4.1: Students understand the impact of scientific and technological developments on individuals and societies.
- Reading and Writing Standard 2: Students write and speak for a variety of purposes and audiences.

OBJECTIVES
After completing this activity, students will be able to:
- Gather information from an historical photograph.
- Identify differences in the modes of transportation from the time the photograph was taken and present times.
- State the purposes of different modes of transportation and discuss the similarities and differences in the purposes from then to now.
- Brainstorm ideas about what scientific and technological developments had to happen to create the new modes of transportation, using cause and effect to organize their thinking.
- Orally present a cause and effect explanation of how transportation has changed stating some of the scientific advances that had to be in place.

INQUIRY QUESTIONS
- How many types of transportation can you find in the picture?
- How are the people using the transportation, what is the purpose of the different types of transportation?
- What type of transportation came first?
- What types of transportation do we have today that takes the place of these types?
- What kind of scientific inventions had to happen to allow the newer types of transportation?
• Do you think the new inventions caused the new transportation or do you think the need for new transportation caused the inventions? 
• Think about the omnibus in the picture and the light rail train to help you with some of the cause and effect questions.

**MATERIALS TO BE USED**

• Photograph from the Doing History CD-ROM disk or website for the Cities topic: Denver: Photo #4

**PROCEDURE**

Students working with a partner will:

1. Use the CD-ROM disk or website to examine the photograph.

2. Discuss the variety of transportation types they see.

3. Compare them to the types of transportation we have today.

4. Begin a list of the kinds of scientific inventions necessary to make the current types of transportation.

5. Fill in a cause and effect chart with their ideas of the scientific advances and inventions.

6. Practice an oral presentation of their chart to be given to the class.

**ASSESSMENT**

The students in the class will assess the oral presentation using the following standards:

1. Was the presentation easy to understand?

2. Are you able to state at least two scientific advances that changed the transportation from the past into modern forms of transportation?