

## Practice Skimming a Nonfiction Text

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Purpose Have students a) practice gleaning information without reading the entire article;  
b) concisely state what they've learned from a text

Grades 6-8

Materials needed: copy of pp. 72-75 of *The Negro in Colonial New England 1620-1760* by  
Lorenzo Greene  
Handout (1 page)

## Before You Read

1. \_\_\_\_\_ True or False: Slavery was practiced in the New England colonies in the 1700's

2a. If your answer is "FALSE", in 1 or 2 complete sentences, explain why not

2b. If your answer is "TRUE", estimate the percentage of the population who were slaves: \_\_\_\_\_%

## Skim the Article

3. When was the first general census of New England's population by race made? \_\_\_\_\_

*This question is asking me to look for:*

*a name*

*an italicized/boldface term*

*phrases*

*a date/number*

4. Which colony had the largest number of slaves? \_\_\_\_\_

*This question is asking me to look for:*

*a name*

*an italicized/boldface term*

*phrases*

*a date/number*

5. What 3 industries in Rhode Island employed the most slaves?

\_\_\_\_\_

*This question is asking me to look for:*

*a name*

*an italicized/boldface term*

*phrases*

*a date/number*

## After You Read

6. In 1 or 2 complete sentences, explain something you learned from this article that you didn't know before you read it.

## INTRO TO PURITAN PRIMER

Purpose: Have students connect with how Puritan children learned the alphabet.

Lesson includes: Individual assignment, self-evaluations of the assignment, discussions

Grades: 6-12

Materials needed:

Copy of the Puritan alphabet from the New England Primer (available online, try:

<http://www.bing.com/images/search?q=new%20england%20primer&pc=conduit&ptag=A82F463B5BA8B49BF9AF&form=CONBNT&conlogo=CT3210127&ShowAppsUI=0#view=detail&id=96F36DA6402C5F9D6B9A678D1B9DB769316DBE7B&selectedIndex=4>)

### STEP 1 DIRECTIONS

Students will: Teach the alphabet to very young children.  
To help them, give them a word to associate with each letter.  
That word should be the name of a person, place, thing or idea that is important to you.

**DON'T DO THIS.....A is for Apple, B is for Bear.**

Unless your family grows apples or you live in fear of bear attacks, these words are not important to you.

### INSTEAD DO THIS...

	<i>Why it's important</i>
<b>A is for</b> AUNT BETTY	She's the oldest one in our family
<b>B is for</b> BALANCING	Find time to play AND work hard
<b>C is for</b> CHICAGO	It's my hometown
<b>D is for</b> DOGS	We LOVE dogs!

### STEP 2 HANDOUT

1. Of the 26 words of my alphabet, how many are...

\_\_\_\_\_ People                      \_\_\_\_\_ Places                      \_\_\_\_\_ Things

\_\_\_\_\_ Ideas or beliefs                      \_\_\_\_\_ Other

2. Based on these results, the most important things to me are \_\_\_\_\_

3. Do you think this accurately illustrates what you value most in life?

Absolutely!      Mostly                      Not really                      Not at all!

### STEP 3 HAND OUT PURITAN ALPHABET

STEP 4 HANDOUT

1. Of the 26 words of this alphabet, how many are.....

\_\_\_\_\_ People                  \_\_\_\_\_ Places                  \_\_\_\_\_ Things

\_\_\_\_\_ Ideas or beliefs                  \_\_\_\_\_ Other

2. Based on this, the most important things to the Puritan community are \_\_\_\_\_

3. Do you think this accurately illustrates what they value most in life?

Absolutely?    Mostly                  Not really                  Not at all!

4. Of the 26 explanations, I fully understand \_\_\_\_\_ of them.

## MY ALPHABET

	<i>Why it's important</i>
<b>A</b> is for	
<b>B</b> is for	
<b>C</b> is for	
<b>D</b> is for	
<b>E</b> is for	
<b>F</b> is for	
<b>G</b> is for	
<b>H</b> is for	
<b>I</b> is for	
<b>J</b> is for	
<b>K</b> is for	
<b>L</b> is for	
<b>M</b> is for	
<b>N</b> is for	
<b>O</b> is for	
<b>P</b> is for	
<b>Q</b> is for	
<b>R</b> is for	
<b>S</b> is for	
<b>T</b> is for	
<b>U</b> is for	
<b>V</b> is for	
<b>W</b> is for	
<b>X</b> is for	
<b>Y</b> is for	
<b>Z</b> is for	