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Grade level: 5

Primary source citation: Thaddeus Lowe's Balloon Ascent. Smithsonian Archives Collection.

http://siarchives.si.edu/collections/siris_sic_12871-0

Allow students, in groups or individually, to examine the photograph located at the above link while answering the questions below in order. The questions are designed to guide students into a deeper analysis of the source and sharpen associated cognitive skills.

Level 1: Description

- 1 Tell what you think could be going on in this photograph. Explain what led you to your ideas.
- 2 Identify three things that lead you to pin pointing a time period or event for this photograph.
- 3 Write a journal entry as if you were the man inside the basket. What might be going through his mind? Be sure to use first person.

Level 2: Interpretation

- 1 Look at the photograph. Discuss with your table if you'd expect to see this practice with the Union or Confederate army. What background led you to come to your conclusion?
- 2 How might the events in this photograph have a lasting effect on your life today?
- 3 Come to a conclusion as to what this picture is showing you.

Level 3: Analysis

(A discuss will be held to explain to the students that this is a photograph showing the first attempt for the union to use Aerial Reconnaissance during the Civil War. This will occur before the Analysis section begins.)

- 1 Relate this example to the modern day examples that you discovered through Starbase. How are the ideas the same? Different?

- 2 Research the practice of using this type of Aerial Reconnaissance. How long did this practice last? Was it successful for the Union? Did it create any setbacks?
- 3 Examine the picture closely. What can you discover located in this photograph that will better help you understand the time period of the Civil War?

