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Grade level: 4-5

Primary source citation: *Bezaleel Wells' Surveying Equipment*, 1772; 1805. McKinley Museum and National Memorial. Accessed at *Ohio Memory*, <http://www.ohiomemory.org/cdm/ref/collection/p267401coll36/id/2844>.

Allow students, in groups or individually, to examine the **surveyor's compass** located at the above link (or attached) 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 Describe the shape of the object.
- 2 What materials does it appear were used to make the object?
- 3 About how big do you think it is in real life?

Level 2: Interpretation

- 1 Describe the object in the middle of the circle.
- 2 Now look at an enlarged view of the circle area of the object. Explain what you see.

Level 3: Analysis

- 1 Why do you think there is a pin in the center of the thin metal strip?
- 2 What do the letters around the outer part of the circle tell you about the object?
- 3 What do you think the object is?
- 4 Compare this object to the modern day version. How is it different? How is it the same?
- 5 Make a smart guess about when in history this object was used.

