


1. Title / Content Area:	Colorado Amusements
2. Historic Site:	Elitch Gardens Theatre, Philadelphia Toboggan Company Carousel #6
3. Episode	
3. Developed by:	Laura Israelsen, Denver Public Schools
4. Grade Level and Standards:	<p><i>Grade Level:</i> 6<sup>th</sup> – HS</p> <p><i>Grade Level:</i> 6<sup>th</sup> - HS</p> <p><i>Standards:</i> Colorado Social Studies Standards 1-4</p> <p><i>Prepared Graduate Competencies:</i></p> <p>Content in this Document Based Question ( DBQ ) link to Prepared Graduate Competencies in the Colorado Academic Standards</p> <p>6<sup>th</sup>: PGC 1-5, 7, 8</p> <p>7<sup>th</sup>: PGC 1-5, 7</p> <p>8<sup>th</sup>: PGC 1-5, 7</p> <p>HS: PGC 1-5, 7, 8</p>
5. Assessment Question:	How do amusement parks connect the past with the present?
6. Contextual Paragraph	<p>Amusement parks have not been around forever, even if people believe we had. They originated at the turn of the century with the popularity of the Columbian Exposition in Chicago and once created, never stopped growing. Today, amusement parks are quite different than the original midways of the turn of the century, but still provide enjoyment to people of a variety of ages.</p> <p>Information on the Elitch Gardens Theatre can be located here:  <a href="https://historicelitchtheatre.org/about/theatre-history/">https://historicelitchtheatre.org/about/theatre-history/</a></p> <p>Information on the Philadelphia Toboggan Company Carousel #6 ( Kit Carson Carousel) can be found here: <a href="https://www.kitcarsoncountycarousel.com/">https://www.kitcarsoncountycarousel.com/</a></p>




<p>7. Connection to Historic Preservation</p>	<p>Many of the amusement parks from the turn of the century no longer exist, but elements of some remain as important landmarks and physical structures that document the importance of the time period just after the Columbian Exposition in Chicago when amusement parks and gardens flourished.</p> <p>In Colorado, the Elitch Gardens Theatre was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1978 and has been preserved through the efforts of a variety of partners including the Office of the Mayor of Denver, the History Colorado State Historical Fund, the Historic Elitch Gardens Theatre Foundation, and community members across the state and nation. It is significant for its architecture as an example of resort architecture which was popular at the turn of the century and for the entertainment and theater industry because of the important theatrical names that performed in this location such as Sarah Bernhardt.</p> <p>The Philadelphia Toboggan Company #6 Carousel was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1978, and was named as a National Historic Landmark in 1987. It has been preserved and restored and is in Kit Carson County at this time. It is significant because of the architectural style of the carousel, the carving of the animals, and the original paint colors which give it merit as an object d'art.</p> <p>Ongoing preservation efforts continue for both landmarks through partnerships in the community and collaboration with the History Colorado State Historical Fund.</p>	
---	--	--

## Document Based Question (DBQ)

### Document Set

Overview of Chicago Exposition	<p>GUIDING QUESTIONS:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Why was the World's Columbian Exposition something that people admired?</li> <li>2. What types of things were present at the exposition?</li> <li>3. What large scale collection of activities at the exposition led to the creation of amusement parks across the nation?</li> <li>4. What particular amusement park ride is recognized today as being created for the exposition?</li> </ol>
	
<a href="https://www.loc.gov/item/ihas.200198127/">https://www.loc.gov/item/ihas.200198127/</a>	

<p>A pretty avenue in Elitch Garden, a popular pleasure resort, Denver, Col., U.S.A.</p>	<p>GUIDING QUESTIONS:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Why would people from other regions in the United States want to see this picture of Elitch Gardens?</li> <li>2) What might the photographer be trying to portray in this photo?</li> <li>3) How does this photo reflect the time period and the Columbian Exposition that was taking place?</li> </ol>
	
<a href="https://www.loc.gov/item/2018645676/">https://www.loc.gov/item/2018645676/</a>	

<p>Philadelphia Toboggan Company Carousel #6</p>	<p>GUIDING QUESTIONS:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Why would a carousel be important to the owner for an amusement park?</li> <li>2. How would a carousel show the importance or stature of the park to visitors?</li> </ol>
--	---



<https://www.uncovercolorado.com/museums/kit-carson-county-carousel/>

3. Examine the craftsmanship of the carousel. How does this work represent excellence in the trades?
4. What Why would the state of Colorado find it important to preserve and restore the Kit Carson Carousel (also known as Philadelphia Toboggan Company Carousel #6?)
5. Why would it be important to preserve a carousel even if it is not in its original setting?

A ride revolves at the historic Lakeside Amusement Park in Denver, Colorado, which opened in 1908 adjacent to Lake Rhoda. It was originally named "White City" in remembrance of the famed, temporary wonder of the same name at the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago



<https://www.loc.gov/item/2017885488/>

#### GUIDING QUESTIONS:

1. Why would a historian or architect want to document a ride like this at Lakeside Amusement Park?
2. Why would rides be an important part of an amusement park ?
3. In which ways does this ride reflect the rides and/or exhibitions at the Columbian Exposition?

Lakeside Amusement Park Celebration  
107 Summers

(Photo A)



<https://history.denverlibrary.org/news/lakeside-amusement-park-celebrating-107-denver-summers>

GUIDING QUESTIONS:

1. Examine the architecture in this image. What do you notice about it?
2. Compare this image to Photo B. How is the architecture the same?
3. How is it different?
4. Why would architects want to copy the architecture from one location to another?
5. The Columbian Exposition in Chicago was considered to be one of the most innovative and special of its time. Do you think Lakeside was as well when it first opened?


The Columbian Exposition  
(Photo B)



<http://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/90711997/>

GUIDING QUESTIONS:

1. Compare this image to Photo A. How do the images portray a sense of grandeur?
2. How do both of the event venues show the technology of the time?
3. Are these temporary or permanent buildings in each photo? How do you know?
4. What kind of materials were used to build the structures?
5. Does this give you an idea about the architect's vision for the site?

Elitch Theatre	<b>GUIDING QUESTIONS:</b>  1. What features of this building stand out to the observer in this image?  2. Why would this type of building be called “resort architecture”?  3. How does the design of the building make it stand out as important or recognizable?
	
<a href="https://npgallery.nps.gov/NRHP/GetAsset/fadb9865-a4dd-402a-b025-56436e685f95">https://npgallery.nps.gov/NRHP/GetAsset/fadb9865-a4dd-402a-b025-56436e685f95</a>	

<b>Assessment Question</b>
How can amusement parks connect the past with the present?
<b>Response</b>