



BROOKLYN

CONNECTIONS

CONEY ISLAND
PRIMARY SOURCE PACKET

Student Name

INTRODUCTORY READING Bradley, Elizabeth. "Coney Island." *The Encyclopedia of New York City*. 2nd ed. 2010.

Adaptation

Coney Island is a neighborhood located in southwest Brooklyn and was named by the Dutch for the many wild rabbits that lived in the area (the Dutch word for rabbits is *konijn*). The area's first resort hotel, the Coney Island House, opened in 1824 and had many famous guests, such as P.T. Barnum, founder of Barnum and Bailey Circus, and Daniel Webster, a well-known politician. After the Civil War, development of the beachfront area sped up and five railroads were built to connect Coney Island to the rest of Brooklyn. New railroads encouraged **entrepreneurs** to build new hotels, restaurants and other **attractions** on the shoreline, including the first American hot dog cart, carousels, and roller coasters.

Between 1897 and 1904 three amusement parks opened: Steeplechase Park, Luna Park and Dreamland Park. The new parks had several features that **transformed** the amusement industry: they charged admission, banned alcohol, promoted **polite vaudeville** and offered **mechanical** rides.

Steeplechase was known for "The Funny Face," a clown-like cartoon figure who set the tone for the park's amusements, such as its namesake, Steeplechase Race, in which visitors rode mechanical horses attached to high iron rails and the Blowhole Theater, where jets of air sent women's skirts skyward. In contrast, Luna Park offered an environment more fantastical than funny: buildings with spires lit at night by tens of thousands of lightbulbs. In keeping with the "lunar" theme, the park's attractions included a "Trip to the Moon" in the winged airship *Luna*. Dreamland was designed as a **genteel** antidote to rival parks and the noise of New York City in general. The grounds were decorated with replicas of international landmarks, such as the Alps and Tower of Seville.

On an average weekend in 1907 visitors mailed about 250,000 postcards from Coney Island, spreading the **reputation** of the parks nationwide. After the subway was extended to the area in 1920, there were up to one million visitors a day in **high season**. A boardwalk, built by the city in 1924, helped to ease crowding on the busy stretch between Brighton Beach and Sea Gate.

Despite the summertime attractions, there was almost no year-round population in Coney Island until the early twentieth century, when Italian and Jewish immigrants settled in the area. The population remained the same until the 1940s when Parks Commissioner Robert Moses widened the beach, demolishing many amusements in favor of a new aquarium and skating rink. These developments combined with the destruction by fire of Luna Park in 1944 led to the rise in street crime and decline in tourism. The development of high-rise, public housing projects in the 1960s brought a new residential population that was largely African American and Hispanic to Coney Island.

Steeplechase Park and the Parachute Jump closed in 1964. In 2001 the city used a portion of Steeplechase Park property to build Keyspan Park, a stadium for the Brooklyn Cyclones, a minor league baseball team. Many of today's surviving attractions are **National Historic Landmarks**, including the Wonder Wheel, Cyclone roller coaster and the Parachute Jump. Several historic restaurants are still in operation, including Gargiulo's, Nathan's Famous Frankfurters and Seafood, and Totonno's Pizzeria Napolitano.



Document 1A - Portion of East New York, Gravesend, Fort Hamilton. 1873. Brooklyn Public Library, Brooklyn Collection.



Document 1B - Eagle Almanac Map of the Borough of Brooklyn. 1911. Brooklyn Public Library, Brooklyn Collection.

1. List four features you observe on the maps shown in Document 1A and 1B:

2. Compare and contrast DOCUMENTS 1A and 1B. List three ways Coney Island changed between 1873 and 1911:

3. Examine Coney Island’s landscape – the features of how the land looks. How was it altered between 1873 and 1911, and why do you think these changes were made?

Document 1A - *Portion of East New York, Gravesend, Fort Hamilton*. 1873. Brooklyn Public Library, Brooklyn Collection.
Document 1B - *Eagle Almanac Map of the Borough of Brooklyn*. 1911. Brooklyn Public Library, Brooklyn Collection.



Document 2A – *Toll Gate on the Coney Island Plank Road*. 21 February, 1857. Brooklyn Public Library, Brooklyn Collection.



ROOKLYNITES who find it inconvenient or undesirable to leave the city during the heated season are by no means cut off from possibilities of vacation trips if they can spare from a couple of hours to a day.

For, within reach of every Brooklynite are the lines of the Brooklyn Rapid Transit system, which carry passengers quickly, comfortably and safely to hundreds of delightful spots for a day's outing along the seashore and in the woods and fields for 10 cents in fares for the round trip. The trolley Brooklyn Rapid Transit Company's lines constitute the greatest trolley system in the world.

All along Surf avenue the cars of the Brooklyn Rapid Transit line run, giving easy access to the kaleidoscopic views, including those of human nature at play, between that avenue and the tide water.

One square yard of Coney Island is never like any other square yard, at any time of the year.

Transcript

Brooklynites who find it difficult to leave the city during the summer are by no means cut off from possibilities of vacation trips if they can spare from a couple of hours to a day.

For, within reach of every Brooklynite are the lines of the **Brooklyn Rapid Transit system**, which carry passengers quickly, comfortably and safely to hundreds of delightful spots for a day's outing along the seashore and in the woods and fields for 10 cents in fares for the round trip. The trolley Brooklyn Rapid Transit Company's lines **constitute** the greatest system in the world.

All along Surf Avenue the cars of the Brooklyn Rapid Transit line run, giving easy access to the views, including those of people playing between that avenue and the tide water.

One square yard of Coney Island is never like any other square yard, at any time of the year.

1. According to Document 2A, how might Brooklynites travel to Coney Island in 1857?

2. According to Document 2B, what was the best way to travel to Coney Island in 1901?

3. What evidence does Document 2B give to support its assumption that the Brooklyn Rapid Transit Company comprises the “greatest system in the world?”

4. How do you think these transportation changes altered Coney Island?

Document 2A – *Toll Gate on the Coney Island Plank Road*. 21 February, 1857. Brooklyn Public Library, Brooklyn Collection.
Document 2B - “B.R.T. Co. Trolley Lines Place Delightful Outings in Reach of All.” *Brooklyn Daily Eagle*. 16 June 1901: 34.



Document 3 - "Coney Island." c. 1920. Brooklyn Public Library, Brooklyn Collection.

1. Use Document 3 to describe Coney Island to someone who has never visited. What would they see, and what could they do there? Why should they plan a visit?

2. When was this photograph taken? What activities could visitors partake in at this time?

3. Infer why Coney Island was an attractive destination for working-class New Yorkers in the 1920s?

Document 3 - "Coney Island." c. 1920. Brooklyn Public Library, Brooklyn Collection.

LUNA PARK FIRST NIGHT

Coney Island Visitors Dazzled by Electric City.

Many Colored Illuminations and Canals
—A Midway of Nations and a Trip
to the Moon Replace the Old-
Time Recreations.

About 45,000 men, women, and children strolling along Surf Avenue, at Coney Island, from 8 o'clock last night until 1 o'clock this morning stopped at one point along this varied thoroughfare and rubbed their eyes and stood in wonder and pinched themselves to see if there was not something wrong somewhere. The Coney Island visitor does not expect much variety in the attractions gathered at the great breathing space by the sea, but here was a strange sight for Coney Island. Yawning on the dingy old pleasure thoroughfare was a monster arch, covering half a city block. The interior of this arch was a solid mass of electric lights and rising many feet into the air were four monster monoliths, traced in electric lights and surmounted by great balls of fire, which shed light over the island.

At this great entrance stood five Roman chariots, each containing a beautiful young woman in evening attire and wearing a red picture hat. Further inside the arch was a long line of uniformed men like an army of elevated railway ticket choppers. Passing to and fro in front of the lady ticket sellers in the Roman chariots was a corps of gilt-edged "barkers," who, with marvelous enunciation call attention to the fact that Luna Park, the most ambitious attempt at amusement catering in the history of Coney Island, had opened.

Covering twenty-two and a half acres of ground there are half a hundred buildings as pretty and almost as ambitious as any shown at the ordinary international exposition. The enterprise was planned by Frederic Thompson, once a Nashville (Tenn.) architect, and Elmer S. Dundy, son of a Circuit Court Judge of Omaha. The young men planned a large part of the Midway of the Pan-American Exposition, and Luna Park at Coney Island is characteristic of that exposition throughout.

They have created a realm of fairy romance in colored light, so beautiful that the rest of Coney Island will have to clean up and dress up, if it is to do business. There are no frankfurters to be found sizzling in Luna Park, but there is pretty nearly everything else that was ever seen in Coney Island and many things new. But the beauty of the place under its extraordinary electrical illumination scheme is its primary feature.

When at 8 o'clock promptly last night the 122,000 electric lights had flashed into brilliancy, and the crowd began pouring in, the visitors passed under the great arch and down a broad avenue called the Court of Honor. On the right of this avenue was a Venetian city, with its columns and colonnades and minarets, and in front of this city a grand canal bridged and illuminated. Later on, gondoliers, it is said, will propel their gondolas along this waterway, and, maybe, twang their guitars. The gondoliers had not arrived last night.

Along the front of the Venetian city is a concession to the Coney Island sight-seer in the form of long rows of "microscopes," in which for a penny one may see many sorts of diverting pictures. On the left of the Central Avenue nearest the entrance are three giant buildings which are the three principal illusion spectacles presented by the Company. The first of these is "A Trip to the Moon," an electro-scenic mechanical illusion. Next is a building representing a monster battleship with turrets, sponsons and fighting tops bristling with guns. Within this building will be put on a scenic spectacle representing the war of worlds, in which the navies of the world in miniature will contend.

Next comes an imposing building from which begins the scenic tunnel, which is said to be the most elaborate of its kind ever constructed. The visitors last night had to take the press agent's word for this, for the tunnel will not be in operation before May 30, but the exterior was a fine piece of architecture, and, with its towers traced in lights, helped out the picture. In the main avenue is an electric fountain spraying changing colors.

Around in the various parts of the grounds are babbling brooks, Japanese gardens, German villages, Irish villages, Eskimo villages, Hindu villages, a Chinese theatre, a monkey theatre, and scores of other attractions calculated to make the average visitor drain his purse before he leaves the scene. The Court of Honor, or main avenue, opens out finally on a broad esplanade, bordering on a lake, into which a "chute-the-chutes," brilliantly lighted, was precipitating its boat loads of screaming humanity. Bordering this lake is a terrace, set with benches and bordered with festoons of lights.

In the centre of the lake is one of the features of the show—a tower rising 200 feet, and literally crusted with lights, making a shaft of brilliance that could be seen for many miles, and which turned half of Coney Island into daylight. At the foot of this tower, built out into the lake, were two circus rings, and here, beginning at 8:30 o'clock, was given a regular circus performance, trained animals, equestrians, acrobats, clowns, ringmasters and all, and both rings in use at the same time. There was a slide for life by a man who hung by his teeth and shot down along a wire from the top of the tower.

At the open space at the end of the lake another big band was playing for all it was worth, and added to this there were fireworks hissing and sputtering and booming almost constantly, while the crowd poured in and the concert halls and saloons and lung testers and candy pullers in the dingy streets outside shook their heads in gloom.

In one corner of the grounds is a quaint old Dutch windmill, and here was discovered one of the most popular contrivances for amusement ever seen. It consisted of a bamboo chute with a good sharp incline, but with many devious turnings, and just broad enough for a good-sized boy. It was not an hour before an unnumbered host of boys had discovered this wonderful slide, and before many minutes boys were shooting down this chute at the rate of about three a second, and fairly smoking as they slid down the curves. The chute has not yet been worn smooth as glass, as it will be soon, and last night it was estimated that something like 3,000 pairs of trousers were more or less damaged within the short space of an hour. It was great fun.

LUNA PARK FIRST NIGHT
Coney Island Visitors Dazzled by Electric City.

About 45,000 men, women, and children strolling along Surf Avenue, at Coney Island, from 9 o'clock last night until 1 o'clock this morning stopped at one point... rubbed their eyes and stood in wonder and pinched themselves to see if there was not something wrong somewhere. The Coney Island visitor does not expect much variety in the attractions, but here was a strange sight for Coney Island. Yawning on the **dingy** old pleasure **thoroughfare** was a monster arch, covering half a city block. The **interior** of this arch was a solid mass of electric lights and rising many feet into the air were four monster **monoliths**, traced in electric lights and **surmounted** by great balls of fire, which shed light over the island.

At this great entrance stood five Roman **chariots**, each containing a beautiful young woman in evening attire and wearing a red hat. Further inside the arch was a long line of uniformed men line an army of elevated railway ticket choppers. Passing to and fro in front of the lady ticket sellers in the Roman chariots was a corps of gilt-edged "barkers," who, with marvelous **enunciation** call attention to the fact that Luna Park, the most **ambitious** attempt at amusement catering in the history of Coney Island, had opened. Covering twenty-two and a half acres of ground there are half a hundred buildings. The enterprise was planned by Frederic Thompson, once a Nashville, (Tenn.) architect, and Elmer S. Dundy, son of a Circuit Court Judge of Omaha. The young men planned a large part of the Midway of the Pan-American Exposition, and Luna Park at Coney Island is similar throughout.

They have created a realm of fairy romance in colored light, so beautiful that the rest of Coney Island will have to clean up and dress up, if it is to do business. There are no frankfurters to be found sizzling in Luna Park, but there is pretty nearly everything else

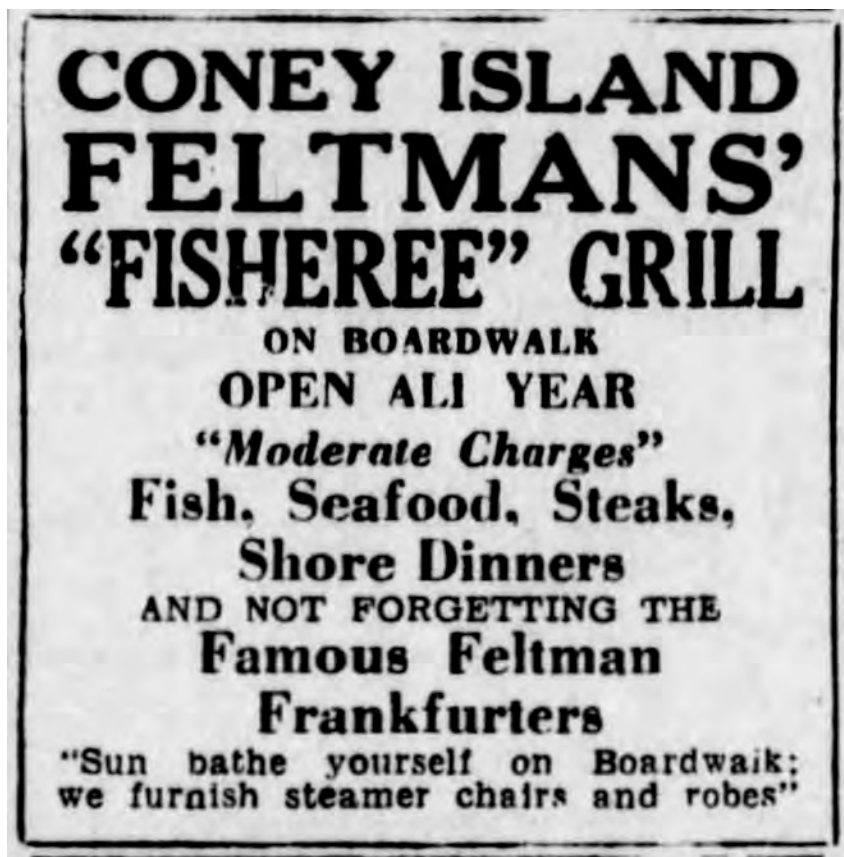
that was ever seen in Coney Island and many things new. But the beauty of the place under its extraordinary electrical **illumination** scheme is its primary feature. When at 8 o'clock promptly last night the 122,000 electric lights had flashed into brilliancy, and the crowd began pouring in, the visitors passed under the great arch and down a broad avenue called the Court of Honor. On the right of this avenue was the Venetian city, with its columns and colonnades and minarets, and in front of this city a grand canal bridged and illuminated. Later on **gondoliers**, it is said, will propel their gondolas along this waterway, and, maybe, twang their guitars. The gondoliers had not arrived last night.

1. What was the purpose of Document 4 and who was it likely written for? How do you know?

2. Why do you think visitors were “dazzled” by Luna Park?

3. Why do you think Luna Park’s designer used so many cultural references from other countries?

Document 4 - “Luna Park First Night.” *New York Times*. 17 May 1903.



Document 5A (ABOVE) "Coney Island Feltman's Fisheree Grill"
Brooklyn Daily Eagle. 28 December 1931.

Document 5B (RIGHT) "Feltman's Coney Island". Brooklyn
Public Library, Brooklyn Collection.



1. According to Document 5A, what kind of food could you eat at Feltman's?

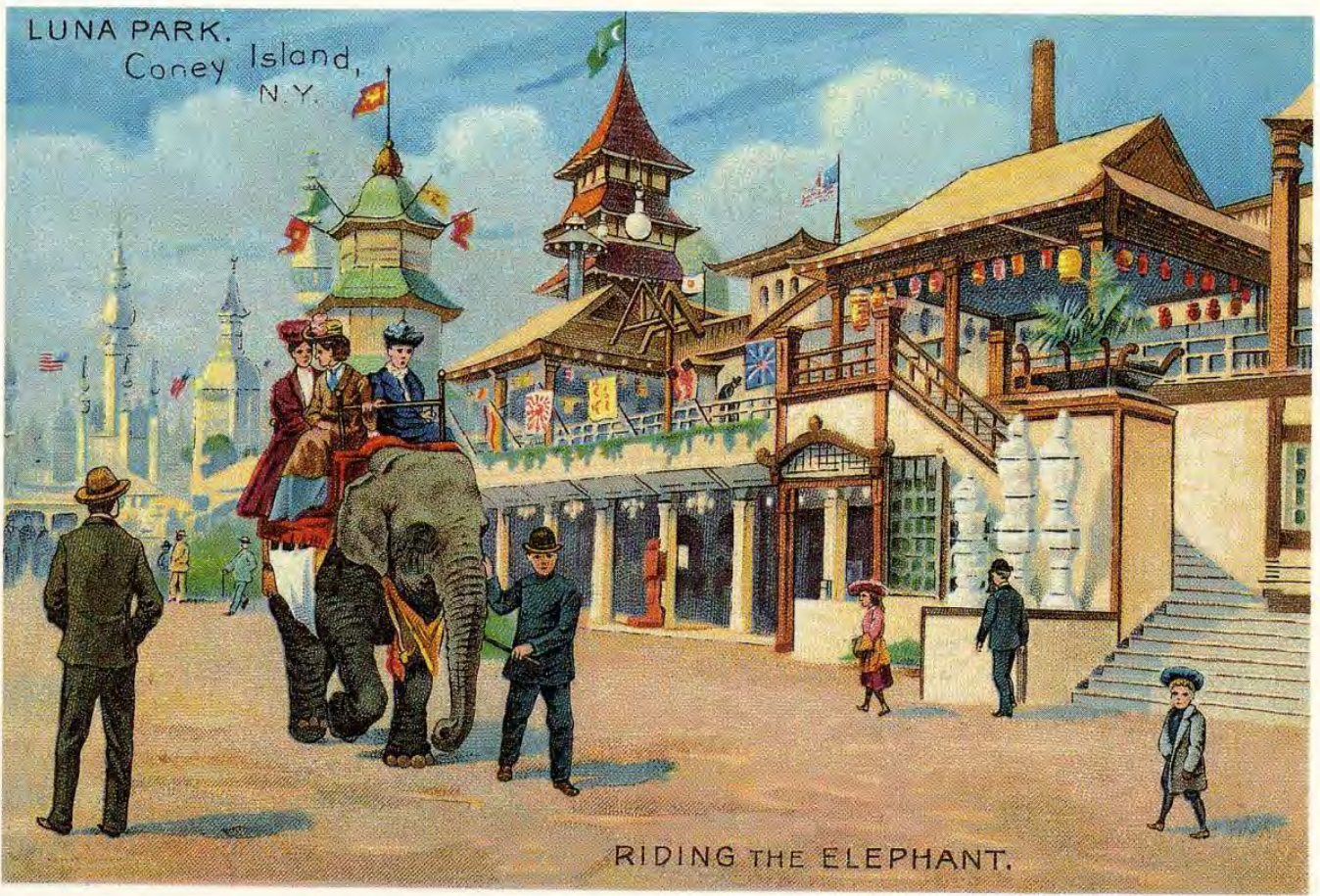
2. What specific food does Document 5A say that Feltman's is famous for?

3. Document 5B is a small envelope that originally contained game pieces. What does this tell us about the kind of customers Feltman's was trying to attract?

4. Feltman's restaurant is located along Coney Island's Boardwalk. What kind of food do you think is most popular at a beach or boardwalk today?

Document 5A - "Coney Island Feltman's Fisheree Grill" *Brooklyn Daily Eagle*. 28 December 1931.

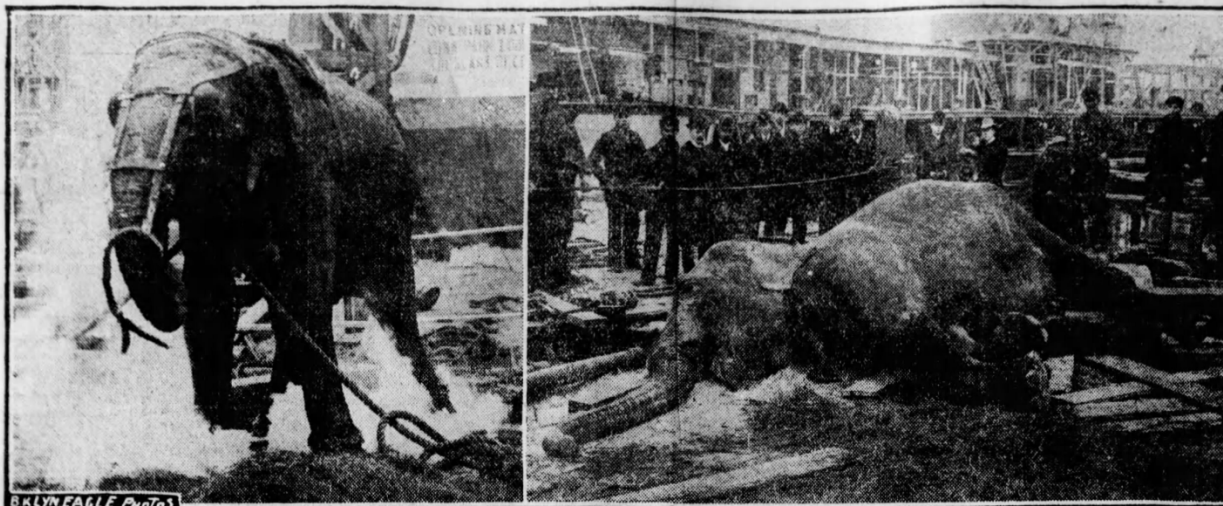
Document 5B - "Feltman's Coney Island". Brooklyn Public Library, Brooklyn Collection.



Document 6A – Luna Park. Coney Island, N.Y. *Riding the Elephant*. Brooklyn Public Library, Brooklyn Collection.

KILLING TOPS, THE ELEPHANT, AT CONEY ISLAND.

The Beast in Harness Before the Execution, and the Body After Death.



BAD ELEPHANT TOPS KILLED BY ELECTRICITY

Refused to Mount the Platform
Where It Was Intended
to Hang Her.

CYANIDE OF POTASSIUM HELPED.

Took Twenty-Two Seconds to Dispose of
the Big Animal—Curious Crowd
Witnessed the Execution.

The firm had considerable trouble in getting a permit to kill the elephant. The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals objected to any cruel treatment being administered. Two officers from the society were on hand yesterday, but they had no reason to complain of any cruelty. The execution was clean and swift and the elephant had only twenty-two seconds of suffering.

Mr. Thompson was greatly pleased with the neatness with which Tops was dispatched to another world and he heaved a sigh of relief when he realized that the bad elephant was no more.

Tops' record is a bad one. She was the original baby elephant and was about 28 years old. She was brought to this country by the late Adam Forepaugh of circus fame when she was only 8 years old. She weighed last week about six tons and was valued at \$6,000. She had a record of killing three men, her first being one of her keepers while in Waco, Tex., in 1900. In the same year, while in Paris, Tex., she killed another keeper and on May 28 last, while the Forepaugh Circus was showing in this borough, she killed a young man named J. Fielding Blount, who lived in Fort Wayne, Ind. Blount had followed the circus about the country and he met his death because he put a lighted cigarette in Tops' mouth. The elephant grabbed him with her trunk and dashed him to the ground, killing him instantly.

Document 6B - "Bad Elephant Tops Killed By Electricity." *Brooklyn Daily Eagle*. 5 January 1903: 8.

BAD ELEPHANT TOPS KILLED BY ELECTRICITY

Refused to Mount the Platform Where It Was Intended to Hang Her.

CYANIDE OF POTASSIUM HELPED

Took Twenty-Two Seconds to Dispose of the Big Animal—Curious Crowd Witnessed the Execution.

The firm had considerable trouble in getting a permit to kill the elephant. The society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals objected to any cruel treatment being administered. Two officers from the society were on hand yesterday, but they had no reason to complain of any cruelty. The execution was clean and swift and the elephant had only twenty-two seconds of suffering.

Mr. Thompson was greatly pleased with the neatness with which Tops was dispatched to another world and he heaved a sigh of relief when he realized that the bad elephant was no more.

Tops' record is a bad one. She was the original baby elephant and was about 28 years old. She was brought to this country by the late Adam Forepaugh of circus fame when she was only 8 years old. She weighed last week about six tons and was valued at \$6,000. She had a record of killing three men, her first being one of her keepers while in Waco, Texas, in 1900. In the same year, while in Paris, Texas, she killed another keeper and on May 28 last, while the Forepaugh Circus was showing in this borough, she killed a young man named J. Fielding Blount, who lived in Fort Wayne, Indiana. Blount had followed the circus about the country and he met his death because he put a lighted cigarette in Tops' mouth. The elephant grabbed him with her trunk and dashed him to the ground, killing him instantly.

1. What kind of document is Document 6A? How do you know?

2. Make two observations about Luna Park from DOCUMENT 6A:

3. According to DOCUMENT 6B, why was Topsy a “bad elephant?”

4. What impact do you think Top’s execution had on Coney Island, if any? Use evidence to support your reasoning.

Document 6A - Luna Park. Coney Island, N.Y. *Riding the Elephant*. Brooklyn Public Library, Brooklyn Collection.
Document 6B - “Bad Elephant Tops Killed By Electricity.” *Brooklyn Daily Eagle*. 5 January 1903: 8.

CONEY ISLAND

STEEPLECHASE PARK

THE FUNNY PLACE

Map of Fun
 GIVING DIRECTIONS FOR DISCOVERING TREASURE

MANHATTAN BRIDGE
 BROOKLYN
 B.M.T.
 SEA BEACH
 WEST END
 CONY ISLAND
 ATLANTIC OCEAN

by AUTOMOBILE
 take Manhattan Bridge & Flatbush Ave. thru Prospect Park, to Ocean Parkway. At end of Parkway turn right.

by SUBWAY
 take B.M.T. any N.Y. station by Sea Beach, West End, or Brighton Expresses to Stillwell Ave.

by BOAT
 Direct from the Battery N.Y.

ALL ON THE ONE COMBINATION TICKET

50¢
 COMBINATION TICKET

- 31 RIDES FOR 50¢**
- STEEPLECHASE HORSES *biggest pla*
 - HOOPLA • ZOO • FROLIC
 - THE MIXER • BARREL OF LOVE
 - PANAMA SLIDE
 - FERRIS WHEEL • CATERPILLAR
 - THE FLYERS • BABYLAND
 - CHANTICLEER
 - AIRSHIPS • KENTUCKY DERBY
 - SCHOOL DAYS • GLASS EXHIBIT
 - THE OLD MILL • WHIRLPOOL
 - ...CIRCUS...S. Express
 - STEEPLECHASE THEATRE
 - CAKEWALK • ROLLER COASTER
 - ELDORADO CAROUSEL
 - BICYCLES *Silver Streak*
 - VENETIAN GONDOLAS
 - ROULETTE WHEEL
 - THE DODGEM • AVALANCHE
 - BARREL OF FUN
 - HEYDEY • HUMAN POOL TABLES

Document 7 – Coney Island Steeplechase Park. Brooklyn Public Library, Brooklyn Collection.

1. Document 7 advertises Steeplechase Park. List 5 rides you could go on at Steeplechase Park:

2. How many rides could you go on with the 50 cent Combination Ticket?

3. According to the map on this pamphlet, what are three ways you could travel to Steeplechase Park?

4. This pamphlet says the New York Subways are the “World’s Longest Nickel Ride”. What does this mean?

Document 7 – *Coney Island Steeplechase Park*. Brooklyn Public Library, Brooklyn Collection.

GEO. C. TILYOU'S
STEEPLECHASE PARK

CONEY ISLAND

SPECIAL
EVENTS
FOR
LADIES

Water Carnival

EVERY

Wednesday Nite

8:30 O'CLOCK

POOL
ADMISSION
WEEK DAYS
INCLUDING
WATER
CARNIVAL
50 CENTS

IN THE MAMMOTH OUTDOOR SWIMMING POOL

FANCY DIVING — SHORT DISTANCE RACES

TUB RACES — CANOE TILTING

AND OTHER EVENTS

OPEN TO ALL BATHERS (No Entry Fee)

Valuable Prizes For Winners

Winners of Weekly Canoe Tilting will compete at end of season for championship,
winners of which will receive Gold and Silver Wrist Watches.

Document 8 - Geo. C. Tilyou's Steeplechase Park. Brooklyn Public Library, Brooklyn Collection.

CONEY SWEEP BY \$1,500,000 FIRE

Steeplechase Park and Blocks
of Flimsy Bowery Build-
ings in Ruins.

ONE MAY DIE; DOZEN HURT

Many Uninsured Business Men Ruined
—Tilyou, Chief Loser, Takes It Brave-
ly—Coney's Gayety Is Unchecked.

There was a \$1,500,000 fire and flame show at Coney Island yesterday morning between 4 and 7 o'clock. Beginning in the Cave of the Winds in Steeplechase Park, it swept some thirty-five acres clean of their gayly painted buildings.

It erased all but a corner of Steeplechase Park from Coney Island's map of joyful territory. It swept along two blocks of Surf Avenue, skirted along two blocks of the Bowery, ate up everything from the Bowery back to the ocean front for a couple of blocks, injured a dozen people, cost in addition to the immediate damage an estimate of \$1,000,000 loss of business this season, threw Coney Island's 20,000 of resident population into panic, ruined dozens of men, insurance at Coney Island being prohibitive in rates, and sent hundreds out to camp on the beach.

From Steeplechase Park the fire swept eastward, crossing Tilyou's Walk, Kensington Walk, Oceanic Walk, and Seaside Walk, working along the south side of the Bowery. On its way it ate up Olsen's hotel, Young's hotel, Ferris's hotel, Lent's \$50,000 hotel, the bathing pavilion and hotel of Arkenau Brothers, estimated to be worth \$60,000; Hoch's \$30,000 hotel and bathing pavilion, Scarana's Italian restaurant, and ring-the-cane shops, and dozens of other smaller business establishments.

The wind shifted during the course of the fire from eastward to southeast, and then south. It got up to Stauch's, where for the first time in its course it ran against a fire-proof brick building. That stood squarely across its path. It destroyed the wooden bathing pavilion at the southern end of Stauch's place, and was then going toward the cannon-mouthed scenic railway to the immediate east.

Document 9 - "Coney Island Swept by \$1,500,000 Fire." *New York Times*, 29 July 1907.

1. According to DOCUMENT 9 what happened to Coney Island in July 1907?

2. Where did the fire start? Why did the fire spread so quickly (HINT: reread the headline for a clue)?

3. Do you find it surprising that only a dozen people were injured by the fire? Why or why not?

Document 9 - "Coney Island Swept by \$1,500,000 Fire." *New York Times*, 29 July 1907.

THE GREAT FRANK C.
BOSTOCK
TRAINED
WILD ANIMAL
**ARENA
AND
JUNGLE**



FRANK C. BOSTOCK
"THE ANIMAL KING"
ORIGINATOR & FOUNDER

SOLE OWNER
DAVID HORSLEY
GENERAL MANAGER
HARRY E. TUDOR

"The name of Frank C. Bostock will go down in history as that of a man who developed the instinctive intelligence of the wild beasts of the jungle to a greater degree than was ever imagined possible."—*New York Herald*.



DAVID HORSLEY
SOLE OWNER

✦ *THE* ✦
"BOSTOCK"
SOUVENIR
POSTAL CARD
PROGRAM
PRICE FIVE CENTS

Copyright, 1915

Document 10 – The "Bostock" Souvenir Postal Card Program. 1915. Brooklyn Public Library, Brooklyn Collection.

1. According to DOCUMENT 10, who was Frank C. Bostock?

2. What attraction did Bostock offer to Coney Island's visitors?

3. How much did it cost to attend Bostock's show in 1915?

Document 10 – *The "Bostock" Souvenir Postal Card Program*. 1915. Brooklyn Public Library, Brooklyn Collection.

GLOSSARY

Ambitious: having or showing a strong desire and determination to succeed.

Attraction: a thing or place that draws visitors by providing something of interest.

Brooklynite: a person who lives in Brooklyn

Brooklyn Rapid Transit system: One of the original public transportation systems in Brooklyn

Chariot: a two-wheeled horse-drawn vehicle used in ancient warfare and racing

Constitute: to establish something, or to be part of something

Dingy: gloomy or drab.

Entrepreneur: a person who organizes and operates a business, taking on greater financial risk in order to do so.

Enunciation: when words are spoken very clearly and distinctly.

Genteel: like a gentleman; with good manners

Gondolier: someone who propels and steers a gondola (a type of boat)

High season: the busiest time of the year.

Illumination: light or lighting.

Interior: the inside of something.

Mechanical: something that runs on machines

Monolith: a large single upright block of stone, especially one shaped into or serving as a pillar or monument.

National Historic Landmarks: nationally significant historic places that demonstrate exceptional value in illustrating or interpreting the heritage of the United States

Polite vaudeville: a kid-friendly version of vaudeville, which features theatre, song, and dance.

Reputation: beliefs or opinions generally held about someone or something.

Surmounted: stand or be place on top of.

Thoroughfare: a road or path forming a route between two places.

Transform: make a thorough or dramatic change in the form, appearance, or character of.