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Finding Fun  
with Finding Aids

*Using Primary Sources:  
Hands-on Instructional Exercises*

Helping undergraduate students understand the nature of archival repositories is often very difficult. My contribution to this publication explores an activity which I pioneered at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire. This activity helps students understand the resource discovery tools of archival repositories. It presents one of these tools, the finding aid, in a fun and challenging way that engages students through inductive reasoning. Adaptations of this activity, discussed in the publication, also help undergraduate students better understand the nature of the materials found within archives. This activity, and all adaptations, assists in developing critical research skills among undergraduate students.