Educational materials developed through the Baltimore County History Labs Program, a partnership between Baltimore County Public Schools and the UMBC Center for History Education.

**RS#15: Ad for Runaway Slave – April 1766**

Prince George, April 1, 1766

Runaway from the subscriber (1) near Blandford, in August last, a lusty (2), square-made negro man named WILL COOPER, Virginia Born, about 33 years of age, bald (no hair), has light skin color, has a smiling face, has lost two or three of his front teeth, chews tobacco, has very ugly round feet, and a large sear (3) on one of his arms; he carried with him cotton clothes. He is outlawed (4). As I have not heard anything of him for some time, I imagine he is gone out of the colony. Whoever brings him to me shall have three pounds (5) reward if found in Virginia, and if he is found outside of Virginia, the reward is ten pounds.

PEYTON SKIPWITH.

Definitions:

1. Subscriber: the person placing the ad
2. Lusty: healthy
3. Sear – scar caused by burning
4. Outlawed – criminal
5. Pounds - British unit of money

Virginia Gazette, Purdie and Dixon, April 11, 1766, page 4 viewed at research.history.org/DigitalLibrary/VirginiaGazette/