World War II

Facts, information and articles about World War II, 1939-1945 Teacher's Guide



The Second World War was arguably the most destructive war in all of history, its exact cost in human lives is unknown, casualties may have totaled 50 million service personnel and civilians. Nations that suffered the highest losses, military and civilian, in descending order, are as follows:

USSR: 42,000,000 Germany: 9,000,000 China: 4,000,000 Japan: 3,000,000

WWII, is was also one of the most significant periods of the 20th century. It brought about major leaps in technology and laid the groundwork that permitted post-war social changes including the end of European colonialism, the civil rights movement in the United States, and the modern women's rights movement, as well as the programs for exploring outer space.

The Kit has several activities, designated with a sticker that matches the topic with corresponding artifacts, books and lesson plans. When teaching a specific topic, refer to the matching stickered artifacts to help students make connections.

Lesson Plans

The Culture Kit contains 7 lesson plans developed to help teachers use THE WAR in the classroom. Classroom activities are appropriate for students in grades K-12 and cover many of the major themes addressed in the film. Many lesson plans also incorporate video clips from the film as well as additional resources. All the lessons address national teaching standards listed within each plan.

Snapshot Activities

Because THE WAR is so rich in educational themes and we know that teachers have a limited amount of time, you will find a series of easy-to-use "snapshot activities" for classroom use. Each snapshot activity contains a brief overview along with activity ideas teachers can use to create lessons tailored to individual class curriculum and teaching style.

Search & Explore

THE WAR Kit also contains a comprehensive Search and Explore database with more than 100 photographs; 50 primary source documents and artifacts; 10 videos including clips from THE WAR, historical footage, web exclusive interviews, and historic newsreels. The Search and Explore section is designed so that students can download assets for projects, reports, blogs, web sites and multimedia presentations.

The Power of Story

PBS and Florentine Films have produced The Power of Story, a PDF handbook for student documentary production. The documentary process provides an excellent model for engaging students in seeking out and understanding history in their own communities while using the technologies that are part and parcel of their lives. This guide is written for students to walk them through the nuts and bolts of making a documentary. It can easily be adapted for classroom use.

Culture is: A way of living and being in the world that are designs for acting, believing, and valuing. Culture includes language, religion, gender, relationships, disability, sexual orientation, family structures, nationality, rural/urban/suburban communities.

Lusting, W., & Koester, J. (1999) Intercultural Competence. Interpersonal Communication across Cultures. 3rd ed. New York: Longman.

Community- Local/ Global-Interconnectedness

- Interest- Communities of people who share the same interest or passion (A community for people participating in same activity). Example- visual and performance arts, Indigenous.
- Action- Communities of people trying to bring about change. (A community with a goal to use, collective power to make change in the world). For example: Environmentalists, Social Justice etc.
- Place- Communities of people brought together across geographic boundaries. Building global relationships-interconnectedness. Building relationships by supporting each other during challenging times. Example- migration/Immigration, war conflicts.

Theme/Big Idea

American literature explores the conflicts that have shaped our nation through books, artifacts, drama, poems, and stories that enrich our understanding of society.

Learning from past mistakes can help prevent one from repeating those mistakes.

Essential Questions

- 1. How do relationships change over time?
- 2. How are conflicts inevitable to relationships?
- 3. What can people learn from previous generations?

http://curriculum.tusd1.org/Parent-Student-Resources

Resources

Printouts

Trail of tears web guide

http://www.readwritethink.org/files/resources/lesson images/lesson125/web-guide-tears.pdf

Japanese-American Internment Web Guide

http://www.readwritethink.org/files/resources/lesson_images/lesson125/web-guide-internment.pdf

Websites

- A Teacher's Guide to the Holocaust http://fcit.usf.edu/holocaust/
- Holocaust Studies at Aish.com http://www.aish.com/ho/
- Trail of Tears Association http://www.nationaltota.com/
- Trial of Tears National Historic Trial: Stories https://www.nps.gov/trte/learn/historyculture/stories.htm
- A More Perfect Union: Japanese Americans & The U.S. Constitution http://amhistory.si.edu/perfectunion/non-flash/index.html
- Japanese Americans at Montana https://www.nps.gov/manz/learn/historyculture/japanese-americans-at-manzanar.htm