## Manzanar National Historic Site

# Lesson 3: War

How Does My Identity Shape My Experience in America?

## **Objective:**

Students are introduced to the internment of Japanese Americans during World War II.

#### **Procedure:**



 $\checkmark$ 

Read the book So Far from the Sea to the class.

Discuss the following questions as a class:

What did Laura and Thomas learn about their identity?
What objects did they find? What did the objects tell them about their identity?
How did Laura and Thomas' identity as Japanese Americans shape their life experiences? How did it shape the experiences of their parents or grandparents? Explain.

How did Laura and Thomas' parents explain the bombing of Pearl Harbor?

How did their parents explain why Japanese Americans had to go to the camps?

Ask your students how war affects their lives. Bring in examples of how war affects your local area

and the nation, both historically and currently. Examples: *newspaper clippings news broadcasts books objects a guest speaker such as a war veteran.*  Assessment: 1. Participation in class discussion. Extension: 1. Refer to education DVD, MANZANAR: Desert Diamonds Behind Barbed Wire, "Baseball Saved US". 2. Check out the University of Arkansas' Life Internapted/ Journey Home Curriculum at http://www.ualr.edu/lifeinternu pted/curriculum/journey\_home \_ourriculum.asp Grade Level: 4th Time: 90 minutes Materials: So Far From the Sea by Eve Bunting, Sources on war (newspaper clippings, news broadcasts, books, speaker, etc.)

How does war affect our lives?

Activity I: So Far From the Sea

#### **Concepts Covered:**

**Begin** to understand how war affects people's lives. **Relate** modern wars with World War II.

**Gather** information from a variety of sources including primary sources.

### **CDE Standards:**

**4th Grade** English/Language Arts: Listening & Speaking 2.3

History/Social Science 4.4.4 4.4.5 4.5.1 4.5.3