



# LESSON 3: WAR

How Does My Identity Shape My Experience in America?

## Activity 1: History of Japanese Americans

How does war affect America's identity?

### Objective:

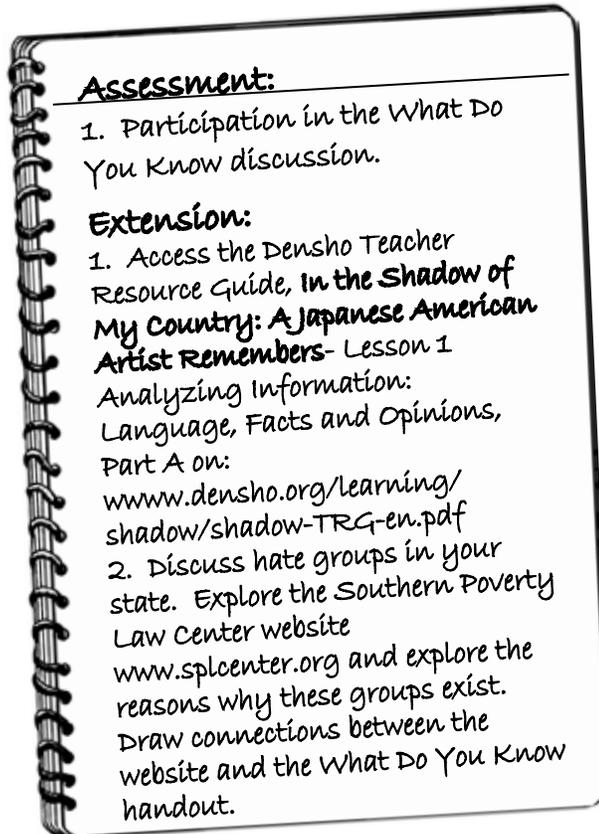
Students begin to explore the context surrounding the World War II internment of Japanese Americans.

### Procedure:

- ✓ Pass out the What Do You Know handout (located in the Lesson 3 Activity 1 Resources section) and give students five minutes to fill it out individually. You may read the What Do You Know statements to the class and have them raise their hands to decide if they think the statement is true or false.
- ✓ Conduct a classroom discussion based on stereotypes and wording within the What Do You Know handout.

*In the guide, the word "Americans" is used. Define Americans. Do all Japanese Americans have a single culture or identity? Do they appear to be grouped together in the What Do You Know handout?*

- ✓ Encourage students to verify his/her answers throughout the lessons. At the end of the lessons, check the What Do You Know handout again and see if all the questions have been answered. If they haven't been answered, break the statements up and have students find the answers.



**Grade Level:** 10 & 11  
**Time:** 20 minutes  
**Materials:**  
 What Do You Know? handout

### Concepts Covered:

- Assess** students' background knowledge.
- Anticipate** what students expect to learn.
- Evaluate** what they have learned.
- Fill** out charts.

### CDE Standards:

- 10th Grade English/Language Arts Writing**  
1.5
- History-Social Science**  
10.8.6
- 11th Grade English/Language Arts Writing**  
2.2 2.3
- History-Social Science**  
11.7.5

Activity 1: **History of Japanese Americans***What Do You Know?**America's Treatment of People of Japanese Ancestry***Directions:**

Read each statement below. If you think a statement is true, circle T. If you think it is false, circle F.

- T F 1. *Japanese Americans were prohibited by law from marrying Caucasians in California during the early 20th Century.*
- T F 2. *It was illegal for Japanese and other Asian immigrants to become naturalized citizens during the first half of the 20th century.*
- T F 3. *During World War II, most Japanese Americans were loyal to Japan and were a threat to their fellow Americans.*
- T F 4. *Japanese Americans who were removed from their homes and sent to relocation centers were always treated by their government, the media and the public with great dignity and respect.*
- T F 5. *All Japanese Americans refused to join the U.S. Army to fight in World War II.*
- T F 6. *During World War II, some Chinese Americans wore buttons that read "I am Chinese" to distinguish themselves from Japanese Americans and to avoid discrimination.*
- T F 7. *No Japanese Americans were convicted of acts of espionage and sabotage against the United States government during World War II.*
- T F 8. *Japanese Americans who lost property while they were interned in relocation centers were repaid in full for all their losses as soon as the war was over.*
- T F 9. *After World War II was over, all Japanese Americans who had been in the relocation centers were welcomed back to their homes and communities.*