



LESSON 3: WAR

How Does My Identity Shape My Experience in America?

Activity 2: War

How does war affect America's identity?

Objective:

Students explore the issues that led to World War II.

Procedure:

- ✓ Briefly discuss world events prior to the United States entering World War II, such as immigration laws, racism, the Great Depression and the war in Europe and Asia.



Japanese Aerial Photograph of the Attack on Pearl Harbor, Hawaii December 7, 1941
U.S. Navy Photographic Collections

- ✓ Have students choose an issue that brought the U.S. into World War II. Offer students time in the library or on the internet for the preliminary research. For homework, have each student further research the topic and put together a 3-5 minute presentation on the topic/issue. Encourage your students to use props for their programs. Sample topics: cartoons or other drawings, journalist's perspectives, citizenship laws, the "Yellow Peril," invasions of China and Poland, etc.
- ✓ Students develop and deliver presentations to the class. The presentations will allow students to start to explore fear, hysteria, racism, governmental concerns and controversy before World War II.
- ✓ Begin reading *Farewell to Manzanar* by Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston & James D. Houston. The first chapter titled, "What is Pearl Harbor?" will take you directly into the war and how it began. Continue reading the book throughout the remaining lessons to learn about the wartime experiences of Jeanne and her family.

Assessment:

1. Student involvement in the pre-World War II discussion.
2. Research and presentation on pre-World War II issues.

Extension:

1. Discuss how other groups were treated during World War II: African Americans in the military, Jewish people in Europe, Chinese in Nanking, prisoners of war, the U.S. internment of Germans and Italians, etc.

Grade Level: 10 & 11
Time: 2 hours (class)
 90 minutes (home)
Materials:
Farewell to Manzanar by Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston & James D. Houston
 Internet or library access

Concepts Covered:

Read for detail.

Discuss broad concepts and **establish** context.

CDE Standards:

10th Grade English/Language Arts Reading

1.1 2.3

Listening & Speaking

1.1

History-Social Science

10.8.1 10.8.5 10.8.6

11th Grade English/Language Arts Reading

2.1 2.3

Listening & Speaking

1.2

History-Social Science

11.7.1 11.7.3 11.7.5