

Mona Al-Hayani
Japan---Lesson Plan
American Studies Grade 9
Two 68 minute periods

WORLD WAR II – JAPANESE AMERICAN INTERNMENT

SOCIAL STUDIES OHIO ACADEMIC CONTENT STANDARDS CONNECTIONS:

GRADE 9

BENCHMARK :

Students will be able to evaluate the reliability and credibility of sources.

STANDARD:

Social Studies Skills and Methods

INDICATORS:

Students will be able to detect bias and propaganda in primary and secondary sources of information.

Students will be able to evaluate the credibility of sources for bias.

GRADE 10

BENCHMARK:

Students will be able to evaluate the reliability and credibility of sources.

STANDARD:

Social Studies Skills and Methods

INDICATORS:

Students will be able to determine the credibility of sources by considering the following: Recognition of stereotypes and the circumstances in which the author prepared the source.

GRADE 10

BENCHMARK:

Students will be able to identify major historical patterns in the domestic affairs of the United States during the 20th century and explain their significance.

STANDARD:

History

INDICATOR:

Students will be able to analyze the impact of U.S. participation in World War II with emphasis on the internment of Japanese Americans.

MATERIALS / RESOURCES:

Annotated Bibliography (attached)

Four discriminatory World War II posters (propaganda) and an official government document: *Avenge December 7, Jap Trap, I am an American, How to tell Japs from the Chinese* and *Civilian Exclusion Order No. 5.*, (the poster and document can be accessed from the Following website: <http://www.loc.gov/index.html>).

ENGAGEMENT:

Students will group into their teacher created dyads. Each dyad will have eight pictures. Four pictures will be of American citizens (multiracial representations) and the remaining 4 pictures will be of people from other countries (including Europeans).

In dyads, students will sort the pictures into two categories: Which are American citizens and which are not?

After revealing the answers, discussion questions will follow and student volunteers will record responses on overhead.

Discussion Questions:

How easy or difficult was the task?

Can you really tell if a person is an American just by looking at them?

If Americans do not all look the same, what are the characteristics of an American?

Through oral discussion, teacher will stress the point that nationality is not defined by race, especially in the United States.

EXPLORATION:

Students will listen to sound recording (teacher created): On Dec. 7, 1941 Japan bombed Pearl Harbor. After the attack, a presidential warrant authorized U.S. Attorney General Francis Biddle to have the FBI arrest a fixed number of “dangerous enemy aliens”. By the end of the day, December 7, 1941, 737 Japanese Americans were arrested and taken into custody.

By Dec. 8, 1941 the United States entered WWII. By Dec. 11, 1941 1,370 Japanese Americans were classified by the FBI as “dangerous enemy aliens”.

By Aug. 7, 1942 over 110,000 Japanese Americans were placed into internment camps located in the states of California, Nevada, Idaho, Utah, Arizona, Wyoming, Colorado, and Arkansas.

Teacher will display primary source document (*Exclusion Civilian Order No.5*) via LCD projector. Teacher will discuss the Order with students and emphasize that families were ordered to leave their homes and belongings and could not return.

Discuss the following orally: With the internment of Japanese Americans, many of them must have felt betrayed by the U.S. government. How could they suspect their own government would treat them this way since many of them felt that they were loyal U.S. citizens?

Students will have 5-7 minutes to journal their feelings in response to the above question.

EXPLANATION:

Students will copy information in their journals:

Discrimination / Bias-Power to exclude others; this action usually stems from prejudice and racism. Examples of discrimination include limiting job opportunities, housing, and education.

Hysteria-Negative group behavior. Thoughts and actions based on limited or biased information. Anti-Enemy Propaganda against the Japanese led to group hysteria.

Discussion Questions (answer in journal-10 minutes):

How does discrimination affect others?

How did *Exclusion Civilian Order No.5* discriminate against Japanese Americans?

Although the U.S. was at war with Germany and Italy, why were Japanese Americans singled out?

How does hysteria occur?

What are the consequences of hysteria?

Through oral discussion, teacher will stress that *Exclusion Civilian Order No. 5* violated the constitutional rights of Japanese Americans.

Also, the Japanese were “easier” to single out for discrimination because of their physical appearance.

Teacher will stress that the bombing of Pearl Harbor brought anti-Japanese sentiment and this hysteria, or fear of Japanese Americans, was based on ignorance (lack of knowledge). Consequences of hysteria in WWII led to the discrimination and internment of over 110,000 Japanese Americans (An estimated 62% were U.S. citizens).

EVALUATION:

Using the *Poster Analysis Worksheet* (National Archives and Record Administration), In dyads, students will analyze four discriminatory WWII propaganda posters.

EXTENSION:

Students will use the RAFT writing strategy and write a memoir in the voice of a Japanese American teenager who has just been forcibly removed from his/her home and is being taken to an internment camp.

Students are to use attached annotated websites, notes, discussion questions and any primary, secondary source documents from this lesson to add validity to their memoirs. They must also incorporate at least three aspects of Japanese culture in their memoirs (annotated websites provide links to Japanese culture).

CONTEMPORARY EXTENSION:

Analyze various aspects of the Patriot Act and the violation of the Constitutional Rights of Americans (Especially Arab / Muslim Americans).

ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY (MATERIALS / RESOURCES):

The Japanese American Legacy Project

<http://www.densho.org>

This site has a digital archive of more than 200 hours of interviews and visual histories of Japanese Americans and others affected by WWII incarceration.

CLA Institute on Primary Resources

<http://ipr.ues.gseis.ucla.edu/classroom>

This site has sources based on the art and writings of Estelle Ishigo.

ABC 7 NEWS

www.wjla.com/news/stories/1204/192299.html

This site contains WWII film on the Japanese in Hawaii and discusses other ethnic groups who were forced into internment camps.

THE AMERICAN FORUM- D. REPARATIONS

www.globaled.org/curriculum/internmentd.html

This site provides information and documents about the July 10, 1970 Western Nevada District Council resolution for reparations for the WWII incarceration of Japanese Americans.

CHILDREN OF THE CAMPS: THE JAPANESE AMERICAN WWII INTERNMENT CAMP EXPERIENCE

www.children-of-the-camps.org

Online documentary captures the experiences of six Americans of Japanese ancestry as children in the internment camps.

UNIVERSITY OF UTAH- J. WILLARD MARRIOT LIBRARY- PRIVATE COLLECTION

www.lib.utah.edu/spc/photo/9066/9066.htm

This site offers collections of photos from the internment camps: Tule Lake and Topaz.

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTE

www.americanhistory.si.edu/perfectunion/experience/index.html

This exhibit explores the internment of Japanese Americans and the U.S. Constitution.

JAPANESE AMERICAN EXHIBIT AND ACCESS PROJECT

www.lib.washington.edu/exhibits/harmony

This site offers more than 100 photographs from the evacuation of Japanese Americans to their ultimate incarceration.

SAN FRANCISCO MUSEUM

www.sfmuseum.org/war/evactxt.html

This site houses a collection of 1942 newspaper articles which detail the evacuation of Japanese Americans from San Francisco and other West Coast cities.

DISCOVERY CHANNEL SCHOOL

www.school.discovery.com/lessonplans/activities/japaneseamericans

This site is teacher friendly and allows teacher and student to research the internment camps and investigate the Supreme Court's decision in *Korematsu v. United States*. Many photographs are also available.

NPR: WWII JAPANESE AMERICANS SHARE STORIES AT REUNION

www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=858741

Audio of several hundred Japanese Americans who grew up in WWII internment camps gather in Los Angeles for a reunion. Survivors tell their poignant stories.

L.A. DAILY NEWS-NEWS

www.dailynews.com/Stories

This site offers a retrospective look at World War II and Japanese American internment through contemporary as well as archived news articles. This site also provides several links to teacher created curriculum projects relevant to WWII and Japanese American internment.

ACLU

www.refuseandresist.org/detentions/art.php?aid-531

This site offers insight as Japanese Americans look at 9/11 and remember Japanese internment. Dialogue also delves into whether the United States would consider another Ethnic internment in light of 9/11.

UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT

www.asianamerican.uconn.edu/video.htm

This site provides videos, audio, oral histories, cd-roms, slides and teaching aids for Japanese American internment. Many of the above items can be downloaded free of charge.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

www.loc.gov/loc/lcib/02034/lcib_02034.pdf

This site provides photos by Ansel Adams depicting the evacuation and internment of Japanese Americans.

OWENS VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

www.owensvalleyhistory.com/manzanar3/page13.html

This site provides photographs, interviews and Manzanar camp history. The photographs chronicle arrivals and departures of internees.

SAN FRANCISCO UNIVERSITY

www.wss.sfsu.edu/internment/documents.html-21k

This site has a wealth of government documents relating to Japanese American internment.

MASUMI HAYASHI PHOTOGRAPHY

www.csuohio.edu/art_photos-15k

This site offers a body of work that deals with the internment of Japanese Americans during WWII.

SANTA CRUZ PUBLIC LIBRARY: THE ENEMY ALIEN FILES

www.santacruzpl.org/libinfo/enemyalien/index.shtml-7k

This site provides information on the forcible relocation and internment of 31,000 German, Italian, and Japanese immigrants and citizens in the Santa Cruz area.

COURT TV LIBRARY: CIVIL RIGHTS CASES

www.courtstv.com/archive/legaldocs/rights/interred.html-28k

Legal documents dealing with Japanese Americans suing the federal government seeking damages stemming from the U.S. policy of deportation and internment of persons of Japanese descent residing in the U.S. during WWII.

CBS NEWS: REPUBLICANS DEFEND WWII INTERNMENTS

www.cbsnews.com/stories/2003/02/07/politics/main539755.shtml

Audio and text of 2003 news story detailing major republicans who defend the U.S. government's decision to intern Japanese Americans.

FOX NEWS: POLITICS- N.C. REPRESENTATIVE

www.foxnews.com/history/02933.77677.00.html

Audio and text of 2003 news story detailing Representative from North Carolina defending the government's decision to intern Japanese Americans for their own safety.

JAPANESE CULTURE

Over 120 pages of Japanese culture: Geisha, Samurai, cherry blossom, Japanese Clothing, kimono, Japanese New Year, Japanese tea ceremony, Japanese gardens, etc.

www.japaneselifestyle.com.au/culture/culture.html

JAPANESE CULTURE -- A PRIMER FOR NEWCOMERS

Insights on important Japanese cultural traits and attitudes for non-Japanese.

www.thejapanfaq.com/FAQ-Primer.html

Explore Japanese Gardens, Art, Culture and Food

Explore beautiful japanese gardens, zen gardens, learn about japanese culture and art, get a taste of japanese food while listening to lovely japanese music.

www.explorejapan.com/

YesJapan.com - Culture Center

Learn the in and outs of Japanese Culture.

www.yesjapan.com/culture/

NON-FICTION SOURCES:

Barkan, Elazar. *The Guilt of Nations: Restitution and Negotiating Historical Injustices* (New York: Norton Publishers, 2000)

This book discusses the shameful past that brought monetary restitution to Japanese American internees. The author delves into our capitalistic society and its mistakes past and present.

Daniels, Roger. *Prisoners Without Trial: Japanese Americans in World War II* (New York: Hill&Wang Publishers, 1993)

This book discusses the violation of civil liberties imposed upon Japanese American internees in WWII.

Houston, Jeanne Wakatsuki and James D. Houston. *Farewell to Manzanar* (New York: Bantam Books, 1973, 1995)

This is a well-known Japanese American memoir of pre-war, WWII and postwar life. Memoirs detail the internment at Manzanar, also.

Inada, Lawson. *Only What We Could Carry: The Japanese American internment Experience* (Berkeley: Heyday Books, 2000)

This book provides many primary sources, including letters, diaries, photos, poems and soldiers' accounts.

Robinson, Greg. *By Order Of the President: FDR and the Internment of Japanese Americans* (Massachusetts: Harvard University Press, 2001)

This book explores the longstanding prejudice on the West Coast, war-induced fear of a Japanese invasion and the incompetence of military officials who were afraid of a

Japanese-American fifth column. FDR, local politicians and the military take the burden of the responsibility in this book.

Weglyn, Michi. *Years of Infamy, The Untold Story of America's Concentration Camps* (New York: Morrow Quill Paperbacks, 1976)

This paperback contains important historic previously unpublished primary sources relating to the internment of Japanese Americans.