

# Teacher's Guide



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# A h s h 's G

This Teacher's Guide accompanies the Museum of History and Holocaust Education's traveling exhibit *Japanese American Internment*. This exhibit offers a glimpse into the realities of Japanese American life during World War II. Using historical panels, images, and testimony, this guide investigates the experiences of 120,000 ethnic Japanese on the west coast, two-thirds of them American citizens, who were forced into a series of camps to live under armed guard. To inquire about availability, please email us at [mhheeducation@kennesaw.edu](mailto:mhheeducation@kennesaw.edu).

This curriculum guide for **high school** teachers will help educate students about World War II in America and the individuals impacted by this event. Although many of the lessons in this guide focus on Social Studies standards, the activities are designed to be cross-curricular and can also be used for English Language Arts and Advanced Placement classes.

This guide is organized by individual lessons that are intended to take between one and two class periods to complete. We recognize, however, that not all teachers will be able to dedicate this amount of time to the topic of the Japanese American Internment; the activities, therefore, can be pulled out of the lessons and stand alone as individual parts.

In designing this guide we also sought to place a heavy emphasis on primary and secondary sources to teach this topic. All primary sources and worksheets that are needed for each lesson are included in the guide.

**Teachers should review all resources provided in this guide before sharing them with students to determine the appropriateness for their class.**

*Credits:* h ns, s, ns, h s n h s s s n h K n n s n s  
P H s : M n sh B n F n s D , J m M , n h R s, M n n , J m  
h , A ns, E , C n , A , n h n Z . I s  
n h M s H s s E n's s : R h , D. J B , J s N , M  
K K n s K n n s n s 's M s H s s E n.

Teacher's Guide



PAGE

**Georgia Standards of Excellence correlated with *The Tragedy of War: Japanese American Internment* activities:**

**HIGH SCHOOL**

These lessons meet the criteria for the following Georgia Standards of Excellence:

**SOCIAL STUDIES**

**SSCG7 Demonstrate knowledge of civil liberties and civil rights.**

- a. Define **civil liberties** as protections against government actions (e.g., First Amendment).
- b. Define civil rights as equal protections for all people (e.g., Civil Rights Act, Brown v. Board of Education, etc.)
- c. Analyze due process of law as expressed in the 5th and 14th amendments, as understood through the process of incorporation.
- d. Identify how amendments extend the right to vote.

**SSSocC2 Evaluate how cultures evolve over time.**

- a. Explain **cultural change and diversity** include ethnocentrism, cultural relativism, folk culture, pop culture, counterculture, subculture, and culture shock.
- b. Analyze the impact of globalization on U.S. and other world cultures.

**SSSocIC1 Analyze forms of social inequality.**

- a. Explain how unequal distribution of power and resources affects the life chances of individuals in that society.
- b. Analyze the sources and effects of stratification on the basis of social class, **race and ethnicity**, gender, age, and emotional, mental, and physical disabilities.
- c. Analyze the sources of global stratification and inequality.
- d. Evaluate the impact of global stratification and inequality on global relations.

**SSUSH19 Examine the origins, major developments, and the domestic impact of World War II, including the growth of the federal government.**

- a. Investigate the origins of U.S. involvement in the war including Lend-lease and the **Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor**.
- b. Examine the Pacific Theater including the difficulties the U.S. faced in delivering weapons, food, and medical supplies to troops, the Battle of Midway, Manhattan Project and the dropping of the atomic bombs.
- c. Examine the European Theater including difficulties the U.S. faced in delivering weapons, food, and medical supplies to troops, D-Day, and the Fall of Berlin.
- d. Investigate the domestic impact of the war including war mobilization, as indicated by rationing, wartime conversion, and the role of women and African Americans or Blacks.
- e. Examine Roosevelt's use of executive powers including the integration of defense industries and the **internment of Japanese-Americans**.

**READING STANDARDS FOR LITERACY IN HISTORY/SOCIAL STUDIES GRADES 9-10**

- L9-10RHSS1 Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of primary and secondary sources, attending to such features as the date and origin of the information.
- L9-10RHSS2 Determine the central ideas or information of a primary or secondary source; provide an accurate summary of how key events or ideas develop over the course of the text.
- L9-10RHSS3 Analyze in detail a series of events described in a text; determine whether earlier events caused later ones or simply preceded them.
- L9-10RHSS4 Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including vocabulary describing political, social, or economic aspects of history/social science.
- L9-10RHSS8 Assess the extent to which the reasoning and evidence in a text support the author's claims.
- L9-10RHSS9 Compare and contrast treatments of the same topic in several primary and secondary sources.
- L9-10RHSS10 By the end of grade 10, read and comprehend history/social studies texts in the grades 9–10 text complexity band independently and proficiently.

**WRITING STANDARDS FOR LITERACY IN HISTORY AND SOCIAL STUDIES**




- L11-12RHSS3 Evaluate various explanations for actions or events and determine which explanation best accords with textual evidence, acknowledging where the text leaves matters uncertain.
- L11-12RHSS4 Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including analyzing how an author uses and refines the meaning of a key term over the course of a text (e.g., how Madison defines faction in Federalist No. 10).
- L11-12RHSS5 Analyze in detail how a complex primary source is structured, including how key sentences, paragraphs, and larger portions of the text contribute to the whole.
- L11-12RHSS6 Evaluate authors' differing points of view on the same historical event or issue by assessing the authors' claims, reasoning, and evidence.
- L11-12RHSS7 Integrate and evaluate multiple sources of information presented in diverse formats and media (e.g., visually, quantitatively, as well as in words) in order to address a question or solve a problem.
- L11-12RHSS8 Evaluate an author's premises, claims, and evidence by corroborating or challenging them with other information.
- L11-12RHSS9 Integrate information from diverse sources, both primary and secondary, into a coherent understanding of an idea or event, noting discrepancies among sources.
- L11-12RHSS10 By the end of grade 12, read and comprehend history/social studies texts in the grades 11–12 text complexity band independently and proficiently.

**WRITING STANDARDS FOR LITERACY IN HISTORY/SOCIAL STUDIES, SCIENCE, AND TECHNICAL SUBJECTS GRADES 11-12**

- L11-12WHST1 Write arguments focused on discipline-specific content.
- L11-12WHST2 Write informative/explanatory texts, including the narration of historical events, scientific procedures/experiments, or technical processes.
- L11-12WHST4 Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.
- L11-12WHST5 Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience.
- L11-12WHST7 Conduct short as well as more sustained research projects to answer a question (including a self-generated question) or solve a problem; narrow or broaden the inquiry when appropriate; synthesize multiple sources on the subject, demonstrating understanding of the subject under investigation.
- L11-12WHST8 Gather relevant information from multiple authoritative print and digital sources, using advanced searches effectively; assess the strengths and limitations of each source in terms of the specific task, purpose, and audience; integrate information into the text selectively to maintain the flow of ideas, avoiding plagiarism and overreliance on any one source and following a standard format for citation.
- L11-12WHST9 Draw evidence from informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.
- L11-12WHST10 Write routinely over extended time frames (time for reflection and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.



# One

## Historical Origins and Context

### Overview:

Japanese migrants came to the United States in the 1880s, first to Hawaii to work on sugar plantations and then to the mainland. By 1910, there were roughly 150,000 ethnic Japanese on the West Coast. Newcomers found jobs in farm labor, as domestic workers, and in urban, coastal industries such as canneries. They formed rich cultural enclaves in Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Seattle, where they owned hotels, restaurants, and laundries.

Like most Asian immigrants at the time, Japanese men and women faced hostility. Unions, business organizations, and nativist groups argued that Asian workers competed against white workers for jobs. These groups argued that Chinese and Japanese immigrants did not embrace American culture and created a “yellow peril.” Discriminatory laws in the 1910s and 1920s barred Japanese immigrants from owning land and from practicing medicine and law.

The first immigrants to America were young, unmarried men who left Japan for better opportunities. The 1907-1908 “Gentleman’s Agreements” between President Theodore Roosevelt and Japan’s government, however, stopped Japanese migrant laborers

### **Activity 1: The Origins of Japanese American Internment**

1. Discuss the students' existing knowledge of Japanese American internment during World War II. Write their responses on the whiteboard during this discussion.
2. Ask the students to research, either online or through written resources, the origins of Japanese American internment. Students may consult the following online resources:

A More Perfect Union <http://amhistory.si.edu/perfectunion/experience/>

The Densho Project [www.densho.org](http://www.densho.org)

The National Archives [www.archives.gov](http://www.archives.gov)

The Smithsonian Institute <https://s.si.edu/2kHnqsv>

Encourage the students to use the following search terms: “Japanese Internment causes,” “Pearl Harbor aftermath,” “Anti-Japanese paranoia,” and “Executive Order 9066.”

If you have access to the traveling exhibit, *The Tragedy of War: Japanese American Internment*, the students may research this question using the second, third, and fourth panels.

3. After allowing time for the students to conduct research, instruct them to write a short response to the following question using evidence from their research to support their answer: “What short- and long-term factors contributed to the internment of Japanese Americans during World War II?”
4. The students should discuss their answers in small groups and then present their research to the class.

### **Activity 2: Understanding Fear – Analyzing Propaganda**

1. Divide the class into small groups and distribute copies of the attached propaganda images (Source Sheets A-C, pages 11-13). Clarify to students that the word “Jap” is derogatory. This word is in several of the propaganda posters. It was commonly used in the 1940s to describe people of Japanese descent, and has since fallen out of use because of its derogatory nature.
2. Ask each group of students to analyze the propaganda images by answering the following questions:
  - How do you think that this image portrays Japanese Americans?
  - What stereotypes of Japanese Americans are used by the creators?
  - What methods does the image's creator use to persuade the audience?
  - How do you think the public reacted to this image?
  - What does this image tell you about the government's attitudes towards Japanese Americans before and during World War II?
3. Discuss the four propaganda images as a class. Ask students to explain their answers. During the discussion encourage students to consider other historical propaganda images that they have encountered. Ask them to consider similarities and differences between these images.

### **Activity 3: A Critical Analysis of Executive Order 9066**

1. Project or print copies of Executive Order 9066 (Source Sheet D, page 14). Instruct the students to write a response to the document using the following instructions:
  - Write a few sentences on the topic of the order. Include a sentence that discusses what is unclear.
  - Put Executive Order 9066 in the context of WWII and American History. Write a couple of sentences about why this order is relevant.
  - Who wrote this order, what inspired them to write it and what impact might it have?
  - What sorts of biases might this author have had?
  - What exactly can we learn about the United States by reading and analyzing Executive Order 9066?

### **Activity 4: Researching the Development of Anti-Japanese Hysteria**

1. Discuss with the students printed newspaper headlines, photos, and letters written to and from Japanese Americans. Consult the following online resources for these primary documents:

Photography of Internment at <https://bit.ly/1f82q3X>

“Goodbye!” letters at <https://bit.ly/2Fofiuk>

Headlines, political cartoons, and photos at [www.sfmuseum.org](http://www.sfmuseum.org)

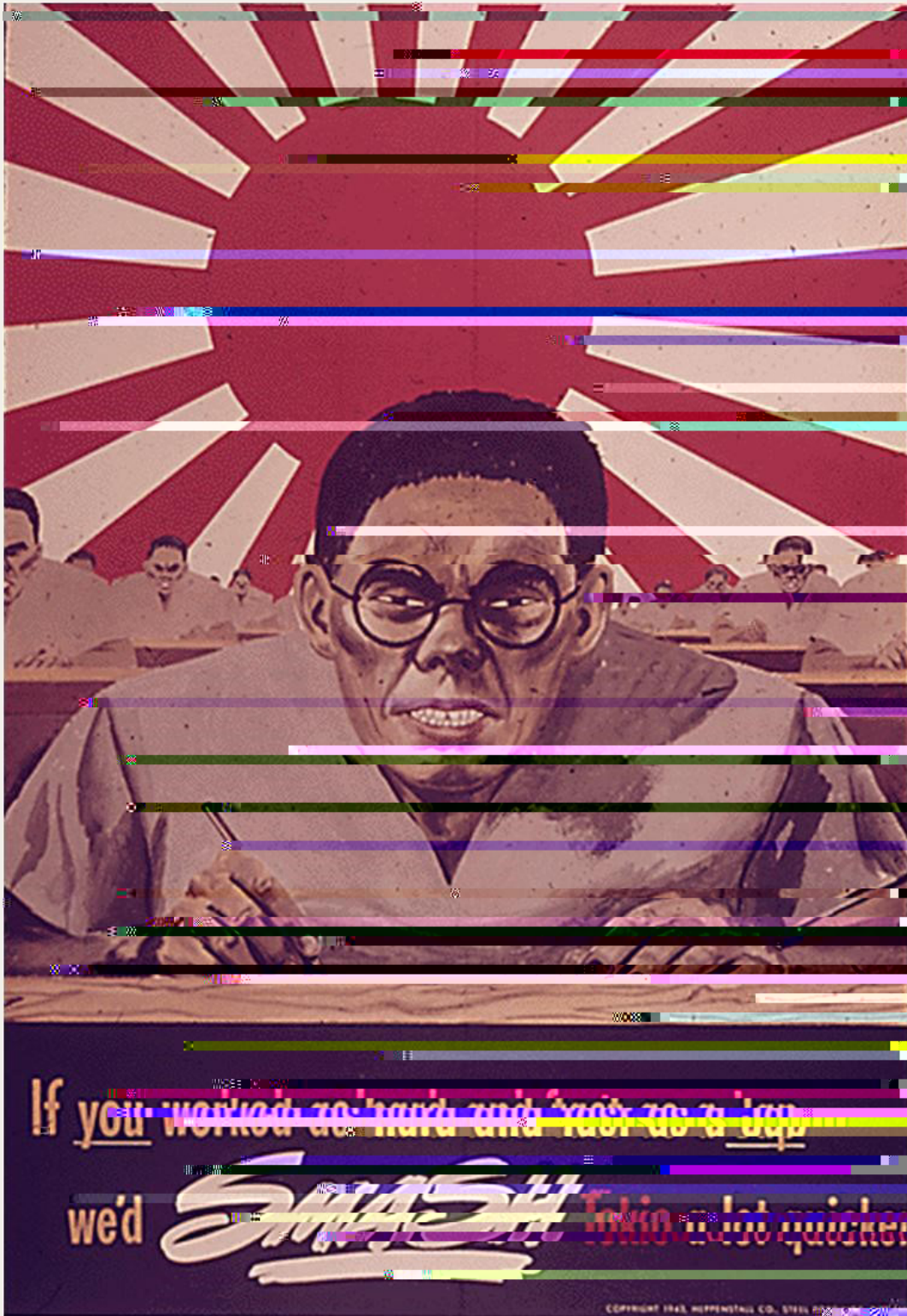
2. Ask the students to identify expressions of anti-Asian attitudes and explain how this contributed to anti-Asian hysteria in the 1940s.
3. Explore the similarities and differences in the language used in these pieces. Which phrases, words, and imagery are often used? What are potential reasons for this?

SOURCE SHEET A: PROPAGANDA POSTERS





SOURCE SHEET B: PROPAGANDA POSTERS



SOURCE SHEET C: PROPAGANDA POSTERS





SOURCE SHEET D: EXECUTIVE ORDER 9066

EXECUTIVE ORDER

AUTHORIZING THE SECRETARY OF WAR TO PRESCRIBE  
MILITARY AREAS

WHEREAS the successful prosecution of the war requires every possible protection against espionage and against sabotage ~~to national-defense activities~~, ~~national-defense premises~~, and ~~national-defense utilities~~ as defined in Section 4, Act of April 20, 1918, 40 Stat. 533, as amended by the Act of November 30, 1940, 54 Stat. 1220, and the Act of August 21, 1941, 55 Stat. 655 (U. S. C., Title 50, Sec. 24104):

NOW, THEREFORE, I, HARRY S. TRUMAN, President of the United States, and Commander in Chief of the Army and Navy, I hereby authorize and direct the Secretary of War, and the Military Commanders whom he may from time to time designate, whenever he or any designated Commander deems such action necessary or desirable, to prescribe military areas in such places and of such extent as he or the appropriate Military Commander may determine, from which any or all persons may be excluded, and with respect to which, the right of any person to enter, remain in, or leave shall be subject to whatever restrictions the Secretary of War or the appropriate Military





### Activity 1: What is that Word? Language Analysis

1. Divide the whiteboard into three columns titled “Internment,” “Confinement,” or “Concentration.” Have the students replicate this chart on a sheet of paper and complete their chart throughout the activity.
2. Instruct the students to research the three terms in a dictionary. Discuss the definitions and how they contribute to the debate and discussion around the use of the three terms.
3. Ask the class to brainstorm additional definitions of each word, and try to provide examples of each. Record their definitions on the white board.
4. Write or project the following three words on the white board and discuss the differences between their definitions:

**Internment:** “Internment” refers to the legal detention of “enemy aliens” during wartime.

**Concentration:** The term concentration camp refers to a camp in which people are detained or confined, usually under harsh conditions and without regard to legal norms of arrest and imprisonment that are acceptable in a constitutional democracy.

**Confinement:** Confinement refers to the illegal detention of citizens.

5. As a class discuss which term is most appropriate for discussing the confinement of Japanese Americans during World War II. Conclude by emphasizing that while internment is widely used to describe the experience of Japanese Americans during World War II, confinement is a more accurate term because the detention of Japanese American citizens was illegal. Highlight how these debates have occurred since World War II, and that the connotations that certain words have is important to those affected.

### Activity 2: Debating the Terms

1. Divide the students into groups of three. Assign each student one of the three terms—Internment, Confinement, and Concentration Camps—to research. Instruct them to prepare eight to ten arguments for why this term should be used to describe the experience of Japanese Americans during World War II. These arguments should include the use of historical examples as supporting evidence.
2. Provide the following debate rules for the students to conduct their debate:
  - Each group of students will get three minutes to outline their position.
  - The other two groups will then be allowed to ask two questions of clarification or cross-examination.
3. After the students have presented, debated, and responded to questions, they should record their reactions and thoughts from the debate including the different justifications for the use of the terms.
4. As a class discuss the debates and the arguments that the students found most and least persuasive. Ask the students to record and reflect on the arguments made by other students.

### **Activity 3: Evaluating Primary Sources**

1. Ask the students to explore the following primary sources and the uses of these three terms:

Civil Liberties Act of 1988: <https://bit.ly/2T20yoV>

John DeWitt: <https://bit.ly/2A7JOp9>

Concentration Camp: <https://bit.ly/2SgIreT>  
<https://bit.ly/2CtcxGL>

2. Ask each student to analyze these primary sources by responding to the following questions:

What is the purpose of this primary source?

What methods does the creator employ to convey his or her point?

What language and terminology is used in this primary source? Why?

Do these sources agree with your previous knowledge/discussions?

What other sources can you find that support or contradict this source?

Questions adapted from the Library of Congresses “Using Primary Sources” guidelines  
<http://www.loc.gov/teachers/usingprimarysources/>

# Three

## The Actions of President Franklin D. Roosevelt

### **Overview:**

The Japanese attack on the Pacific fleet stationed in Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, brought the United States into the second World War. Many whites, including political and military officials, considered Japanese Americans “enemy aliens” and feared they would

**Executive Order 9066**



**Activity 2:**



SOURCE SHEET E



'President Roosevelt signing the declaration of war against Germany'  
Dec. 11, 1941

Photographic print 1941 Dec.

C s : L C n ss



'I am an American'  
Oakland, Calif., Mar. 1942.  
Photographic print. 1942.

A large sign reading "I am an American" placed in the window of a store, at 13th and Franklin streets, on December 8, the day after Pearl Harbor. The store was closed following orders to persons of Japanese descent to evacuate from certain West Coast areas. The owner, a University of California graduate, confined with hundreds of evacuees in War Relocation Authority centers for the duration of the war.

C s : L C n ss

# Four

## Relocation and Life in the Camps

### Overview:

The War Relocation Authority (WRA), a civilian agency created by President Roosevelt, oversaw transfer of Japanese Americans to more permanent WRA camps that were located in Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Utah, California, and Arkansas, away from the coast. The isolated camps were large and surrounded by barbed wire fences with towers in which armed guards monitored activity below. Internees occupied a space roughly 16 by 20 feet inside a standard army barrack. Each block of sixteen barracks had its own mess hall and group latrine. Within the barrack, only a partial wall separated family rooms, making privacy impossible. Dust storms and extreme weather battered the poorly insulated buildings. Slowly, however, families personalized these tiny spaces, adding décor and furniture. They also demanded changes from the WRA, such as private stalls in the group bathrooms. From the summer of 1942 until the war's end, Japanese Americans resided in these desolate sites that became small cities.

### The WRA

In some ways, the WRA was sympathetic to their newly imprisoned wards. The internees were offered rights that had been curtailed in the temporary centers such as freedom to assemble and to speak Japanese. The WRA permitted the residents some form of self-government allowing the creation of block councils and advocacy for community needs. However, WRA officials generally held the assumption that confinement was necessary. They argued that camps offered the chance to Americanize the Japanese—in schools and in camp activities such as the Boy Scouts—making it easier for the internees to assimilate into American society after the war.

The Japanese American internees attempted to recreate normal life in the camps. Adults worked for low pay in camp operations, such as in farming, maintenance work, and in camp kitchens. The WRA started schools for children and teenagers. Camps also had YMCAs, theaters, libraries, and offered classes in dressmaking, art, and dance. Children played baseball and volleyball, while teenagers met for dances and talent shows. Families worshipped in makeshift Christian churches and Buddhist temples. Camps especially came to life during both Japanese and American holidays. Celebrants decorated for these and other festivals with adornments often made by hand. Despite the stigma of imprisonment, those confined were resolved to continue their lives as fully as possible behind barbed wire. Though internees made the best of camp life, some chose to resist the WRA and confinement by rioting for better labor rights, higher salaries, and against injustices in the camp. Resistance continued throughout the war largely because the WRA refused to improve conditions or meet their demands.

## Art of Gaman

In order to relieve stress and pass time, internees created art, jewelry, and objects for their homes and for celebrations. Japanese Americans created art and handicraft from scrap materials found in the camps such as seashells, persimmon wood, fabric and anything else they could find. The beautiful objects they created would later come to be called the “Art of Gaman.” Gaman, as explained by scholar Delphine Hirasuna, is a Japanese word that translates to “the art of enduring the unbearable with patience and dignity.”

### Objectives:

- Read and analyze different types of primary source material related to the relocation of Japanese Americans and their lives in internment camps.
- Analyze artwork created by internees and the historical context under which it was created.
- Critically evaluate the experiences of Japanese Americans in internment camps during World War II.

**Materials Needed:** Computer with Internet access, projector, whiteboard, pens/pencils, paper, art supplies

### Activity 1: The Opening of the Internment Camps-Primary Source Analysis

1. Divide students into groups and distribute copies of the primary document “Instructions to all persons of Japanese descent” available here: <https://bit.ly/2UX5ygx>
2. Ask the groups to discuss what this document tells us about the United States Government’s opening of the internment camps and the instructions given to Japanese Americans. Review how to analyze a primary resource using the Library of Congress’s guide to analyzing Primary Sources available here: <https://bit.ly/2EJKUvc>
3. Ask the students to discuss the following questions:
  - What is the tone and message of this poster?
  - What services does it say the Civil Control Station provide, and how expensive will they be?
  - What could Japanese Americans take with them? Why were there restrictions?
  - How much time were internees given to prepare for their relocation?
  - How would you feel if you saw this notice in your neighborhood today?
4. Discuss the groups’ answers and Japanese Americans’ relocation experiences as a class.



**Activity 2: Daily Life in the Camps through Oral Histories.**

1. Review with the class what an oral history is and how to analyze one using the Library of Congress's guide to analyzing Oral Histories available here: <https://bit.ly/2ShElmU>.
2. As a class, explore the website <https://bit.ly/2EIZB1D>.
3. Instruct each student to choose an individual to study. They should watch and analyze the interview and answer the following questions:
  - Briefly describe the individual and their experiences.
  -

3. Ask the students to create a piece of art that reflects something about their daily lives. The students should use only art supplies and items that are readily available to them.
4. Instruct the students to present their artwork to the class explaining why they created their piece and reflecting on the experience of creating art using limited supplies. The students should also reflect on the challenges of expressing themselves in such a confined and limited way.
5. Display the students' artwork in the classroom or hallway.

SOURCE SHEET F

A Japanese farmer  
harvesting cauliflower on a  
ranch near Centerville by  
Dorothea Lange

*C s : L C n ss*

Manzanar, Calif., April 1942.  
Mealtime at the Japanese  
war relocation center

*C s : L C n ss*

C.T. Hibino, artist,  
Manzanar Relocation  
Center. by Ansel Adams

*C s : L C n ss*

Calesthenics by  
Ansel Adams

*C s : L C n ss*

Dressmaking class,  
Manzanar Relocation  
Center, California by  
Ansel Adams,

*C s : L C n ss*

Tojo Miatake Family,  
Manzanar Relocation  
Center by Ansel Adams

*C s : L C n ss.*

# Five

## “Go For Broke!”: The 442<sup>nd</sup> Regimental Combat Team and 100<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion

### Overview:

After Pearl Harbor, the military classified all men of Japanese descent as 4-C or “enemy aliens,” making them ineligible for the draft. Roosevelt was finally persuaded to create an all-Nisei unit as a result of the military successes of the Hawaiian 100th Infantry Battalion, the need for more troops, and Japanese American lobbying. In March 1943, 1,500 confined Nisei men joined the 442nd Regimental Combat Team. In 1944, the 442nd combined with the 100th and was sent to combat in France as one unit. After fighting in France and Italy, the 442nd became one of the most decorated units to serve in World War II. Nisei soldiers earned over 18,000 individual awards, including 21 Medals of Honor, five thousand Purple Hearts, and many other accolades. Their famous motto, “Go for Broke!” aptly signifies the bravery of the unit in the European theater.

In 1943, the War Department and War Relocation Authority created a loyalty questionnaire to gauge the loyalty of Japanese Americans. Two questions proved especially controversial. Question 27 asked men if they would willingly serve the United States Army wherever ordered. Question 28 asked all men and women if they would swear allegiance to the United States and give up any form of allegiance to Japan. Many Nisei were angered that they were asked to fight for a government that had taken away their own rights. Answering yes to the questions left the Issei stateless and as a result many protested by answering no. Those who answered ‘yes’ to both questions were deemed loyal and would be eligible for the draft. Those who answered ‘no’ were called disloyal and segregated in the Tule Lake camp, California.

### Objectives:

- Analyze and evaluate the 442nd and 100th and their patriotism within the historical context of World War II and Japanese American Internment.
- Analyze primary sources to comprehend the role of these military units in key battles.
- Utilize various media to illustrate the contributions of the 442nd and 100th.

**Materials Needed:** Computers with Internet access and speakers, projector, paper, pens/pencils

### Activity 1: Letters from a Soldier

1. Show students some of the accomplishments and accolades given to the Japanese American fighting units. For example: “...I had the honor to command the men of the 442nd Combat Team. You fought magnificently in the field of battle and wrote brilliant chapters in the military history of our country. They demonstrated conclusively the

loyalty and valor of our American citizens of Japanese ancestry in combat.” - General Mark W. Clark. Some of these accolades are featured in primary government documents: <https://bit.ly/2V1LMAp>.

2. Discuss the so-called “loyalty questionnaire” that Japanese Americans were forced to take and ask students how they would feel if a document required them to renounce citizenship and/or fight with the United States. <https://bit.ly/2AbBvJ3>
3. Pair the students and ask them to consider the “loyalty questionnaire” and different responses to it. Instruct them to research five different individuals’ responses to the questionnaire and write a 1-2 page paper in response to the following prompt.

**Prompt:** Describe and explain how different individuals responded to the “loyalty questionnaire” and analyze the motivations of these individuals.

### **Activity Two: War Correspondent**

1. Instruct students to compose a war report on the efforts of Japanese American combatants. They should write this report as a war correspondent.
2. Direct the students to the following resources to help complete their report:  
<https://bit.ly/2CsEZIU>  
<https://bit.ly/2SfRLQe>  
<https://bit.ly/2S9Eybl>
3. Within the report the students should highlight the stories, actions, and accomplishments of individual members of the 442nd or 100th and connect these to larger events and battles fought by these units.
4. After finishing this activity, students should present an excerpt from their news report to the class.

### **Activity Three: Go For Broke! Oral Histories**

1. Students will choose three oral histories from the Go For Broke! Education center’s

# Six

## Returning Home: Life after Internment

### Overview:

War Relocation Authority internment camps began closing in June 1943. The last internment camp, Tule Lake, ceased operations on March 20, 1946. The majority of the newly liberated Japanese Americans returned to the West Coast, though approximately one-third relocated to the Midwest and East Coast. Many Japanese Americans faced continued discrimination. Organizations such as the Seattle Council of Churches, the United Church Ministry, the Civic Unity Committee and the American Friends Service Committee aided the displaced Japanese Americans in reintegrating back into American life. On July 2, 1948, Congress and President Harry Truman enacted the Japanese-American Claims Act, awarding monetary compensation to many Japanese Americans for their loss of property. The amount issued, however, was far less than what internees lost from their forced confinement. It would take another thirty years for the U.S. government to contend with its own actions during World War II.

Most Japanese Americans lost their assets during the war and had to rebuild their lives. The Doi family is one example of this success. In 1946, Gene Hashimoto married Michael Doi and moved to Chicago. They had two children and later moved to Georgia, where Michael worked in the poultry industry. They were part of a small group of Japanese Americans to move south after the war.

### Objectives:

- Analyze the reactions of other Americans to newly released Japanese American internees after World War II.
- Read and analyze stories of internment prisoners' lives after World War II.

**Materials Needed:** Computers with Internet access, paper, pens/pencils

### **Activity 1: Letter to the President – Primary Source Analysis**

1. Ask students to contemplate how Japanese American internees felt upon being released after World War II.
2. Watch the following video as a class:  
Japanese American Internment (U.S. Government Propaganda) <https://bit.ly/1EyB6e8>.  
(Length 00:23)
3. Divide the students into small groups, and instruct them to discuss the video's exploration of life in the internment camps and the years after the war. After the group discussions, instruct students to write a letter to the president as if they were a newly released prisoner.
4. Ask for volunteers to share their letters. The students should explain the thoughts and feelings they expressed in their letters to the president.

### **Activity 2: Views from the Outside**

1. Instruct the students to research the views, opinions, and reactions of Americans responding to the release of interned Japanese Americans. Visit the Densho Digital Archive for research material.
2. Ask the students to write a short essay responding to the following prompt:  
You are the neighbor of someone released from an internment camp. How would you react to his or her return home? Would you assist your neighbor as they rejoin society? What actions would you take?
3. Students should support their essays and responses with evidence and quotations gained from their research and focus on one example of a positive reaction to the return of internees and one example of a negative reaction to the return of internees.
4. Ask the students to prepare a short two to three minute presentation on their research paper. They should present their thoughts and ideas as part of a larger discussion about the reactions of Americans to the end of internment.

### **Activity 3: The Experiences of Internees**

1. Students should choose three oral histories from the Telling Their Stories website available here: <http://www.tellingstories.org/internment/index.html>.
2. The students will use the Library of Congress' "Analyzing Oral Histories" worksheet to analyze the three videos available here: <https://bit.ly/2ShElmU>. They should pay particular attention to the narrators' experiences after they were released from the camps.
3. Discuss how the students would expect the narrators to feel about internment, and then compare this to the different experiences and feelings that these narrators express in their interviews.

4. Instruct the students to write a short response to the following quote explaining what they think it means and what it tells us about the experiences of Japanese Americans after World War II.

“Something in me just made me always want to look over my shoulder to make sure everything’s okay.” - Kay Sakai Nakao, 2006, on life after being released from the Minidoka Internment Camp

5. Discuss the students’ responses.



## Seven The Redress Movement

### **Overview:**

After the camps closed, feelings of shame and a desire to move on with life prevented Japanese Americans from speaking out about their experiences in confinement. The American public largely accepted the event as an unfortunate necessity. The Civil Rights Movement of the 1950s and 1960s, however, influenced Japanese Americans to push for a reexamination of confinement. Led by the Japanese American Citizens League, former internees began to demand restitution from the government. In response, President Jimmy Carter established the bipartisan Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians (CWRIC) in 1980 to investigate the legacy of Executive Order 9066. Declassified

**Activity 1: Oral Histories of Redress**

1.



**Activity 3: Redress NOW! Making Picket Signs**

1.



# Eight

## Civil Liberties versus National Security?

### **Overview:**

Japanese American confinement during World War II has been called one of the worst violations of civil liberties in American history. By ordering the incarceration of American citizens without reasonable cause and without trial, the U.S. government violated rights of

### **Activity 2: Debating National Security versus Individual Liberties**

1. Divide the class into two large groups. Assign “national security” to one group and “individual liberties” to the other.
2. Allow time for the groups to research and create arguments supporting their position and decide which students will speak on which points.
3. Conduct the debate in the classroom. Moderate it by asking questions and allowing each side to respond. You may limit the amount of time for their answers and rebuttals. Some suggested questions to begin the debate include:
  - Which is more important, national security or individual rights?
  - Which is better for the citizens of a country?
  - Which is better for the country’s stability as a whole?
4. After the debate, encourage students to write a reflective essay expressing their opinion on this question while also considering the merits and shortcomings of both sides of the debate.

### **Activity 3: Historical Examples of the Tension between National Security and Individual Liberties**

1. Instruct the students to write a two to three page paper examining other historical events when national security was increased at the expense of individual liberties. The students should use at least one primary source. The students should also include at least one personal story of an individual who experienced the issue or event. Potential choices could include:
  - a. North Korea
  - b. The Alien and Sedition Acts in the U. S.
  - c. The Soviet Union
  - d. The issue of whether or not prisoners at Guantanamo Bay have rights under U. S. law
  - e. The Patriot Act in the U.S.
  - f. The rise of fascism in Spain and/or Italy in the 1930s and 1940s
  - g. Communist control of China (1949 to the present)
  - h. The controversy surrounding the National Security Agency (NSA) surveillance of American citizens and world leaders of other countries
2. Instruct students to consider the following issues as they write their papers:
  - Report how individual liberties decreased and national security increased.
  - Respond to what happened. Do they think it was a good thing for the nation’s security? Do they think it was a good thing for the citizens?
3. Some resources for the students’ research may include:

North Korea: <https://bit.ly/1vA2lz9>

Alien and Sedition Acts: <https://bit.ly/1egIOvR>

<https://bit.ly/1k3ikGD>

The Soviet Union: <https://bit.ly/2V2pWNh>

Guantanamo Bay: <https://bit.ly/2SgIRSv>

<https://bit.ly/2CsQVdu>

The Patriot Act: <https://herit.ag/1qSbBl4>

<https://bit.ly/2LuD2hQ>

Rise of Fascism in Italy: <https://bit.ly/2V21wmX>

Rise of Fascism in Germany: <https://bit.ly/2Raxnmh>

Communism in China: <https://bit.ly/2EAe7Iq>

The NSA: <https://wapo.st/1e6OuIH>

<https://bit.ly/1lZbnAv>

## **Resources for Teachers: K-12 Educational Programs**

The mission of the Museum of History and Holocaust Education is to support K-12 students and teachers in the study of World War II and the Holocaust. Our programs are free and flexible, and you can customize a program to fit your school's specific needs. We offer:

- Field Trips to the museum
- In-School Programs



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