Digging Deeper Into World War II

WebQuest Description: This WebQuest is designed to help students dig beyond the surface (Georgia Standards of Excellence) and become Global Thinkers.

Grade Level: 3-5

Curriculum: Social Studies

Keywords: WWII, Holocaust, Hitler, Truman, FDR, Fifth Grade, GSE

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Introduction

You have just accepted a job as one of the authors of a Power-Point that will help teach future 5th graders some of the highlights of World War II. You need to research your assigned topic (standard). You will answer questions about your assigned topic (standard) You may add more information that you think your readers would enjoy or need to know! Your readers are visual learners so please add pictures!

Tasks

By the end of this lesson, you will have created a Power Point that explains Americaâ€™s involvement in World War II by describing the effect of the Holocaust and the effects of rationing. You will also describe the changing role of women-include â€œRosie the Riveterâ€, and the role African Americans or Blacks-including the Tuskegee Airmen.Groups of students will be assigned as "authors" of one of the sections of the Power-Point. Each person in the group will title his or her section, contribute by writing an article, and adding a picture or pictures to his/her section. Each article will describe or explain topic/standard in complete sentences. Each section should have at least three slides. You may also include videos (do not include the videos that I have listed) or other resources in your presentation to further explain your topic. The more creative such as adding sounds and various slide transitions will add points to your project. Then, each group will combine all sections and present to the class.

For example, add a section called "Holocaust Realities" or one called "Heroic Survivors of the Holocaust." The article will define, and explain the Holocaust. The student will add at least one picture, such as a picture of Jewish people in a prison camp. The picture is to help explain the Holocaust.

Process

Teacher has assigned your groups. Once in your group, decide which member will be responsible for researching what topic. Again, your topics are: Rationing food during WWII The Holocaust Roles of Women during WWII specifically Rosie the Riveter Roles of African Americans during WWII specifically Tuskegee Airmen Once each member has assigned topic, each member will research his or her own topic starting off with the links to videos and websites that I, the teacher, have provided. You are going to be an author, so you will take notes answering as many as possible of the 5 Ws: Who, What, Where, When, and Why of your topic from the resources that you use. Do not plagiarize by copying exactly what you have researched. Summarize or paraphrase the information. Your final product should be eye catching and captures your classmates attention. Be sure to include pictures, sounds, and various transition on slides. Each member of the group should have at least three slides (at least three paragraphs with at least five sentences in each paragraph) answering the 5 Ws with facts and not just opinions. Your final slide will be a group slide that explains why I, the teacher, should use your Power-Point to teach next year's Fifth Graders.

Evaluation

This project will be graded in two ways. First, it will be graded as a whole group by the teacher based on Rubric below. You will grade yourself and each group member with the peer rubric that I have attached. This is YOUR project! This is not your parents or friend's project. If you have questions about the rubric, or group members effort, let the teacher, me, know right away. The day before the project is due is too late.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category and Score</th>
<th>Did Not Meet Standard (0)</th>
<th>Approaching Standard (1)</th>
<th>Meets the Standard (2)</th>
<th>Exceeds the Standard (3)</th>
<th>Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Content</td>
<td>No information from topic was presented</td>
<td>Very little information from topic was presented</td>
<td>information from topic was presented</td>
<td>The information from topic was presented and explained thoroughly</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
I hope that this project taught you more about World War II from the perspective of The United States, African American men, all women, and Jewish survivors of the Holocaust. To be a global thinker, I want you to reflect on these questions: Why does this matter to me? Why do people worry about these atrocities happening again? How does this relate to what is going on in the world today?

This web-quest is about World War II. It should two weeks to complete the project. The first week is research. This is equivalent to five days at 1 hour per day. The second week is compiling the information as a group and making necessary changes to receive meet or exceed on the rubric. The students should have been exposed to the standards prior to assigning the web-quest.

**Standards**
The web-quest covers the Fifth Grade Social Studies Standard of Excellence: SS5H4 Explain America’s involvement in World War II.a. Describe German aggression in Europe and Japanese aggression in Asia.b. Describe major events in the war in both Europe and the Pacific; include Pearl Harbor, Iwo Jima, D-Day, VE and VJ Days, and the Holocaust.c. Discuss President Truman’s decision to drop the atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki.d. Identify Roosevelt, Stalin, Churchill, Hirohito, Truman, Mussolini, and Hitler.e. Describe the effects of rationing and the changing role of women and African Americans or Blacks; include “Rosie the Riveter” and the Tuskegee Airmen.f. Explain the role of Eleanor Roosevelt and the U.S. in the formation of the United Nations.

**Credits**
A BIG thank you to my Gifted Certification class instructor that provided the tutorial for making this web-quest. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f8CaPbCE5MI](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f8CaPbCE5MI)

**Other**
I hope that you find this useful; I will be making a new one that compares and contrasts Japan’s bombing of Pearl Harbor and the United States bombing of Iwo Jima and Nagasaki. As well, I want my students to make a judgement about the the Jewish Prison camps and the Japanese Interment Camps.