

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE PACIFIC WAR

Activity Title: TEXAS HISTORY

Activity Objectives: The student will describe the lifestyle of the early German settlers of Fredericksburg, specifically the Nimitz family. The student will describe the impact both of World War II on Texas and Texas' impact on World War II. These will include famous individuals, industry, female and minority participation and military installations.

TEKS:

4th Grade:

113.15(b)(4)(A), 113.15(b)(5)(A), 113.15(b)(8)(A), 113.15(12)(B),(C),(D),(E),(F)
113.15(13)(B), 113.15(b)(18)(A), 113.15(b)(19)(A), 113.15(b)(20)(B)

5th Grade:

113.16(b)(1)(A), 113.16(b)(5)(A), 113.16(b)(13)(B),(C),(D),(E)
113.16(b)(22)(C)

6th Grade:

113.18.(b)(3)(A), 113.18(b)(17)(B)

7th Grade:

113.19(b)(1)(A), 113.19(b)(7)(D),(E), 113.19(b)(11)(A),(B),(C)
113.19(b)(12)(A),(B),(C), 113.19(b)(20)(C)

8th Grade:

113.20(b)(23)(A)

U.S. History Since 1877

113.41(c)(2)(D), 113.41(c)(7)(B),(G), 113.41(c)(13)(A), 113.41(c)(A),(D),(F)

World History Studies:

113.42(c)(24)(A)

World Geography Studies:

113.43(c)(11)(B)

The lesson plans reference locations on two maps. You need to download the SITE MAP and the GEORGE H. W. BUSH GALLERY from the TEKS BASED LESSON PLANS webpage.

Areas of the museum to visit for this lesson plan:

- a. Admiral Nimitz Museum
- b. Nimitz Hotel Bath House
- c. Plaza of the Presidents
- d. George H.W. Bush Gallery

Teacher Note: If you are bringing a large group you will want to split them up into groups of 10- 25 and have them start at different locations.

Activity Description:

1. Prior to the museum visit (Time Frame: 20 min.):

a. Many German immigrants settled in the Texas Hill Country. Name a town, other than Fredericksburg, that was settled by Germans.

b. There were seven five-star generals and admirals appointed during World War II. Two out of these seven were born in Texas. Who were they?

c. Was there a military base in or near your town during World War II? Is it still there?

d. Did your family live in Texas during World War II?

e. What did your family do during World War II?

2. During the museum visit (Time Frame: 1.5 hrs.):

Admiral Nimitz Museum

a. In the Admiral Nimitz Museum there is an exhibit of a hotel room from the 1890s. Make a list of four things that are not in the room that you would expect to find in a hotel room today.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

b. The 1926 remodeling of the hotel included improvements in each room. Name three of those improvements.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

c. In the section dealing with the life of Chester Nimitz list two items on exhibit that Chester Nimitz used as a baby.

1. _____
2. _____

Did you use the same things when you were a baby? _____

d. List two items on exhibit that Chester Nimitz had when he was a student at the United States Naval Academy.

1. _____
2. _____

Do you use any of these same items in school today? _____

e. What was one method Chester Nimitz used to deliver messages to the people in Fredericksburg after the war? _____

Nimitz Hotel Bath House

This stone building was the bath house for the hotel in the late 1800s. Inside there is a fire place with a metal pot built in over it. This was used to heat water. A number of bath tubs would be in the building and a mixture of the hot water from the pot and cold water from the storage tank on the top of the building were poured into the tubs so hotel guests could take hot baths.

Plaza of the Presidents

f. Which presidents are from Texas? _____

g. What political office did Lyndon B. Johnson hold during World War II?

The George H. W. Bush Gallery

The Rising Sun (# 190 on the NMPW map)

h. What US Navy ship, named for a city in Texas, was sunk at the Battle of Sunda Strait? _____

i. An artillery unit from the Texas Army National Guard fought on Java. What was the unit's nickname? _____

(Bonus) What country is Java part of now? _____

Arsenal of Democracy (# 280 on the NMPW map)

j. Who was in charge of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation during the war? _____

k. List three types of jobs women did during the war that they did not traditionally do before the war.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Texans Pitch In (# 290 on the NMPW map)

l. List three items of war materiel produced in Texas.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

m. How many Texans received the Medal of Honor? _____

n. What did Oveta Culp Hobby do during the war?

o. How many Hispanic Texans received the Medal of Honor? _____

Name two

1. _____
2. _____

p. Using the large map in this room, find the nearest military installation to your home. Does it still exist today? _____ Is there a Texas Historic Marker at the location? _____

q. Name three cities in Texas where warships were built during the war.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

r. Name a city in Texas where airplanes were built during the war.

s. How many enemy prisoners of war were held in Texas at the end of the war? _____

t. Pick any artifact on display and describe it.

What is its connection to Texas?

u. What did the people of Texas do during the war for entertainment?

v. Name four items that were rationed during the war.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Why were these items rationed? _____

w. How many African American Texans joined the military during the war?

x. The first US Navy ship named for an African American was named for a man from Texas. Who was he? _____

3. After the museum visit: (Time Frame: 1 hr.):

Option 1: The student will interview someone who was at home during World War II and ask them how the war affected them in their everyday activities. Ask about rationing, recycling, war bonds, patriotism, relatives in the service and whether or not they had a “Victory Garden”.

Option2: The teacher may invite a guest speaker who was at home during the war to speak to the class about the Home Front.

Note to teacher: This can be assigned as either a written or oral presentation and can be done either individually or as a group project.

Vocabulary:

rationing patriotism installation sacrifice scarce
mobilization bonds draft recycle

Resources: To locate the areas in the museum relevant to this lesson plan you will need to download the two maps mentioned at the beginning of this lesson plan.

Materials: pencil

Technology Utilization: none

Accommodations: Students will require a printed copy of this lesson plan during the museum visit.