

Student Lesson



“The Freshmen are coming, the freshmen are coming!”

LESSON TITLE: “The Freshmen are coming, the freshmen are coming!”

GRADE LEVEL: 7-12

EALRS:

◆ Social Studies EALR

- 1.1 Understands historical time, chronology & causation
- 1.2 Analyze the historical development of events, people, places, & patterns of life in the U.S.
- 1.3 Analyze historical information
- 1.4 Synthesize information & reflect on findings

◆ Communication EALR

- 2.1 – Listen & observe to gain & interpret information
- 2.2 Develop content & ideas
- 2.3 Work cooperatively as a member of a group

OVERVIEW:

This Lesson allows a large group of students to participate in a role-playing exercise. The lesson strives so connect a fictional event to real events that took place at the beginning of World War II.

PURPOSE:

1. Have students assume a variety of assigned roles within a group to perform a task and to contribute to the group with ideas and effort.
2. Have students take a task and work toward consensus, propose solutions and achieve results.
3. View video segments from “When We Were Kids...We Went To War” and make the connection to the United States governments’ decision to put Japanese Americans into internment camps after the attack on Pearl Harbor.

MATERIALS:

1. “When We Were Kids...We Went To War” oral history video.
2. White board and pens, or butcher paper and pens
3. VCR - TV

ACTIVITIES AND PROCEDURES:

1. As you were watching CNN in your classroom this morning, the telecast was interrupted with a flash bulletin that all of the 9th grade freshmen of Washington State have attacked our government. They have acquired a large arsenal of weapons and they have taken over the state capital building in Olympia.
2. Select a class moderator to conduct a brainstorming session.
3. Select someone to write on the whiteboard the suggestions the class will make.
4. As a class, it is your task to decide what your plan is for the next 24 hours to stabilize the situation in your hometown and make sure everyone is safe from this rebellious bunch of freshmen. There are freshmen spies operating in your community.
 - a. How are you going to protect the rest of the public?
 - b. How are you going to continue public services to the community?
 - c. What are you going to do with freshmen that are in you school?

5. View the video segments "Pearl Harbor," and "Internment Camp" from "When We Were Kids...We Went To War"
6. Discuss any similarities between real events that took place in 1941 to the solutions that students have suggested for this lesson.

EVALUATION:

1. The teacher can evaluate students' willingness to participate as a part of the group discussion.
2. Evaluate the contribution of each student
3. Evaluate the role of the narrator and his/her ability to get other students involved in the decision making process.

RESOURCES:

1. Oral history video "When We Were Kids...We Went To War"
2. <http://www.oz.net/~cyu/internment/main.html> This site contains links to many other Japanese internment information.
3. The Children of the Japanese internment camps tell their stories. <http://www.children-of-the-camps.org/>