

Children of Heart Mountain Module

Learning Objectives: In this module students will learn about the lives of children at Heart Mountain. They will discuss the government decisions which shaped the way in which children learned and socialized. They will interpret this information through creating artwork to communicate their understanding of forced removal and daily life at camp (FPA4.1.A.2, FPA8.1.A.2, FPA11.1.A.2). Students will also analyze primary and secondary sources (SS8.6.4, SS12.6.4) and utilize basic writing skills (CCW6-12.3) as well as historic writing (CCWHST6-12.1.a, CCWHST6-12.1.b) to convey understanding and interpretation of material.

Introduction: The children of Heart Mountain greatly impacted the way in which adults in the camp lived. After all, the school was the center of camp life. Children's activities and the ways in which they interacted with other children both inside and outside of the camp shaped the incarceration experience.

Activity

- A Day in Camp
 - Students will find what a day in the camp would be like for a child based on information presented to them by a guide. Did they go to school? Did they do scouts? Maybe it's summertime and they visited the pool or it's winter so they went ice skating after school. Remind them of ways that people in the camp altered their environment to grow plants, make swimming pools, and store produce (root cellar). This activity can be written or spoken aloud to the class. It is ultimately up to the teacher and students, but the goal is to have students connect with the historical moment. *Aligns with Common Core K-2 Writing Standard 3 and WY Dept. of Ed. Science Benchmark K-ESS2-2*
- All We Could Carry
 - Watch the film *All We Could Carry* and interviews of incarcerated. Have students write down the things Japanese Americans brought with them. Explain to students that they didn't know what the weather would be like or where they were going. They only had 7-10 days to figure out what to do with their belongings. This is what happened to Japanese-Americans when President Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066. Discuss what they carried, what happened to their pets and what they didn't have when they arrived at camp.
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Reading Suggestions

- Hello Maggie (k-3)
- Boy of Heart Mountain (4-6)
- Dear America: Fences Between Us (4-9)
- They Called Us Enemy (6-8)
- Stanley Hayami Nisei Son (7-12)
- Citizen 13660 (9-12) **graphic novel*

Video

- [Kids Behind Barbed Wire](#)