

Japanese-Americans at Granada During World War II

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Arvada, Colorado

OVERVIEW

Students will look at pictures from Doing History CD-ROM disk or Internet site/20th Century/Families, Children and Schools, and Food, Clothing, and Shelter, and find three pictures of the Japanese internment camp, Amache Center. They will develop an awareness of the plight of the Japanese Americans who were interred there against their will, for no wrongdoing other than being of the wrong race during wartime.

STANDARDS

- History Standard 2.1: Students know how to use the processes and resources of historical inquiry (Posing and answering questions about the past).
- Civics Standard 1.3: Students understand the principles of the United States constitutional government (Give examples of rights protected by a constitution).

OBJECTIVES

After completing the activity the student will:

- Understand and be able to discuss the concept of internment camps for Japanese U.S. citizens
- Understand that these people were unjustly imprisoned
- Understand that as thinking and active citizens, they can help prevent injustice from occurring in our society

INQUIRY QUESTIONS

- What is an internment camp?
- Why were Japanese U.S. citizens imprisoned there?
- What was life like in the internment camps for the people who had to live there?

MATERIALS

- Doing History CD-ROM disk or Internet site
Pictures from 20th Century/Families, Children, Schools and Food, Clothing, Shelters
- Books—Baseball Saved Us and Heroes by Ken Mochizuki

PROCEDURE

First class period

1. Teacher will read to students Baseball Saved Us and Heroes by Ken Mochizuki, followed by a class discussion of the internment camp, Amache Center, located near Granada, Colorado.

Second class period

2. Students will view three pictures of the internment camp, Amache Center, on the CD-ROM or Internet site: Doing History/20th Century/Families, Children, and Schools, and Food, Clothing and Shelter.
3. Students will meet in small groups to discuss things that they have learned about the internment camp, from the reading and photographs.
4. Students will write a diary entry, depicting a day in the life of an internment child.

ASSESSMENT

After reading, looking at photographs, and class discussions, each student will write a "diary entry". They will write from the perspective of a child inmate at the Amache Center, and describe some aspect of their life in the internment camp.