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#10554

D-DAY & WORLD WAR II

NEW DIMENSION MEDIA, 2003

Grade Level: 5-12

10 Minutes



CAPTIONED MEDIA PROGRAM RELATED RESOURCES

[#7919 D-DAY](#)

[#8471 DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER: COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF](#)

[#8961 WORLD WAR II: THE ALLIES](#)

TEACHER'S GUIDE

Grades 5 to 12

D-Day & World War II History Happened Here Series

Subject Areas: Social Studies, United States History, World History

Synopsis: Archival film footage documents the D-Day invasion of Normandy on June 6, 1944. Examines the planning of Operation Overlord, led by General Dwight D. Eisenhower, and describes the American invasion of Omaha Beach. Emphasizes the importance of the invasion of Normandy in the quest to liberate Europe from Nazi rule.

Learning Objectives:

- Objective 1)** Students will be able to recall the events of Operation Overlord, led by Dwight D. Eisenhower
- Objective 2)** Students will be able to describe Operation Overlord, focusing on the American invasion of Omaha Beach
- Objective 3)** Students will be able to recognize the sacrifice and bravery displayed by soldiers on D-Day
- Objective 4)** Students will be able to explain the significance of the invasion of Normandy

Vocabulary:

Nazis, arsenal, D-Day, invasion, Allies, decoys, English Channel, staunch, armada, liberation, Omaha Beach, daunting, mines, casualties, valor, determination, consecrated

Pre-Viewing Questions and Activities:

On a map, point out the territory held by Nazi Germany before the Invasion of Normandy on June 6, 1944.

Post-Viewing Questions and Discussion:

- 1) What was Hitler's "Atlantic Wall"? What natural conditions made the invasion of Normandy difficult?
- 2) What was the purpose of Operation Overlord? How did the Allies keep Operation Overlord a secret? What kinds of decoys were used to fool German spies?
- 3) How did the Allies reach Normandy? What were the code names for the beaches where the troops landed? What made the assault on Omaha Beach especially daunting? How many American casualties were there on this beach? What is the beach called today?
- 4) How many soldiers survived D-Day? What was the total number of casualties? Did Eisenhower expect so many casualties? Did the soldiers expect so many casualties? What do you think the soldiers thought about before going into battle?
- 5) Why was D-Day significant? In what way was it an important turning point in the war?

Additional Activities:

- 1) Ask students to write newspaper articles about the D-Day invasion of Normandy. The articles should include information about the invasion and the number of casualties. Also ask students to write headlines to accompany their articles.
- 2) Look at photographs of the Normandy American Cemetery and Memorial at <http://www.abmc.gov/no.htm>, and the National World War II Memorial at <http://www.wwiimemorial.com/>. Have a class discussion about the significance of the memorials.
- 3) Read and comment on the personal stories of the soldiers at Normandy at <http://www.normandy1944.info/>.
- 4) Invite a World War II veteran to class to discuss the war and his or her service in the military. Before your guest arrives, have students write down some questions they would like to ask.

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- America's Military History Series
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