



#8962

WORLD WAR II: THE AXIS

Grade Levels: 7-12

26 minutes

AIMS MULTIMEDIA 1996

1 Instructional Graphic Enclosed

DESCRIPTION

This four-part interactive program outlines basic facts about events and leaders during World War II, focusing on the Axis powers of Germany, Italy, and Japan. Addresses Hitler's rise to power, the beginning of the war in 1939, Benito Mussolini's alliance with Hitler, Japan's Hideki Tojo and Pearl Harbor, and Chamberlain's infamous role in the Munich Pact. Archival newsreel footage adds impact to the presentation. Viewers are encouraged to take the pretests and check their answers.



ACADEMIC STANDARDS

Subject Area: Historical Understanding

- ◆ Standard: Understands the historical perspective
 - Benchmark: Analyzes the values held by specific people who influenced history and the role their values played in influencing history
 - Benchmark: Analyzes the influence specific ideas and beliefs had on a period of history



Subject Area: World History

- ◆ Standard: Understands the causes and global consequences of World War II
 - Benchmark: Understands the positions of the major powers Britain, France, the U.S., and the Soviet Union on fascist aggression, and the consequences of their failure to take forceful measures to stop this aggression

INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS

1. To explore the roles of Adolf Hitler, Benito Mussolini and Hideki Tojo in World War II.
2. To examine the rise of Nazism and Fascism.
3. To stimulate interest in the Axis coalition's involvement in World War II.

VOCABULARY

1. alliance
2. anti-Semitism
3. Axis coalition
4. chancellor
5. Fascism
6. Fuehrer
7. Il Duce
8. Nazism
9. samurai
10. tyrant

BEFORE SHOWING

1. Prepare students for their role in playing a history game.
 - a. Determine if students will play on an individual or team basis.
 - b. Provide each student/team with a "History Game Worksheet." (See INSTRUCTIONAL GRAPHICS.)
 - c. Begin the video and allow the program to play until the narrator completes question #3. Stop the tape each time the star symbol (accompanied by an audible beep) appears on the screen. This will occur after every third question. Allow the student/team time to answer the three questions before continuing. In the segment following the three questions, the video presents historical footage to provide the answers for each question.
 - d. After each set there will be a bonus question. The answers will appear at the end of the video.
2. Discuss vocabulary words used in the video.
3. Locate Germany, Italy and Japan on a map or globe.

AFTER SHOWING

Discussion Items and Questions

1. Compare and contrast Hitler, Mussolini and Tojo as leaders.
 - a. Discuss each leader's quest for power.
 - b. Analyze and discuss each leader's death.
2. Discuss how each leader affected the course of history.
3. Discuss the ramifications of Tojo's decision to bomb Pearl Harbor.
4. Discuss existing anti-Semitic or racist organizations and events and what can be done to counter them.



Applications and Activities

1. Create a time line highlighting the activities of the Axis coalition's involvement in World War II.
2. Choose two or three stirring photos/images from the video. Discuss the effect of viewing these images.

3. Research the following:
 - a. The consequences of Hitler's anti-Semitic views.
 - 1) Compare Hitler's attitudes with current attitudes in the world.
 - 2) List other minorities in the world today facing similar attitudes.
 - 3) Share personal experiences if students, or someone they know, have faced these attitudes. Discuss how it affected them.
 - b. A recent film or documentary about these leaders and their role in the war.
 - 1) Create a contest. The object of the game is to have your film or documentary chosen to be shown to the class.
 - 2) Each student is required to find a film or documentary and present a brief summary or advertisement in order to convince classmates to choose their video.
 - 3) Have the class vote on the selections and watch the winner in class.
 - c. Nazi organizations existing today.
 - 1) Consider why these groups formed and for what purpose.
 - 2) Compare these groups with Hitler's Nazi party.
 - 3) Divide the class and hold a debate regarding hate crimes, First Amendment rights or similar current issues.
 - d. The social climate of Germany, Italy and Japan during World War II. Discuss the Germans, Italians and Japanese reactions to their leader's decisions.
4. Outline the details of the Munich Pact. Discuss the decisions made by the prime ministers of France and Britain.
5. Explore the lives of Adolf Hitler, Benito Mussolini and Hideki Tojo.
 - a. Review their family background, education, personal life and achievements.
 - b. Compare and contrast their backgrounds. List the similarities and differences.
 - c. Speculate on what could have been had they made different decisions.
6. Visit the Simon Wiesenthal Center via the Internet: www.wiesenthal.com. Explore the multimedia learning center and report on one of the virtual exhibits.

RELATED RESOURCES



Captioned Media Program

- Hitler #3476
- How Hitler Lost the War #3046
- World War II: The Allies #8961
- World War II: Europe #8960
- World War II: The Pacific #8963



World Wide Web



The following Web sites complement the contents of this guide; they were selected by professionals who have experience in teaching deaf and hard of hearing students. Every effort was made to select accurate, educationally relevant, and “kid-safe” sites. However, teachers should preview them before use. The U.S. Department of Education, the National Association of the Deaf, and the Captioned Media Program do not endorse the sites and are not responsible for their content.

- **THE HISTORY PLACE**
<http://www.historyplace.com>
- **THIRD REICH PAGES ONLINE**
<http://www.thirdreichpages.com>
- **GROLIER INTERACTIVE ONLINE**
http://gi.grolier.com/wwii/wwii_mainpage.html

INSTRUCTIONAL GRAPHICS

- HISTORY GAME WORKSHEET

History Game Worksheet

Student/Team Name: _____

Directions: Place the letter of the correct answer on the line provided. Answers will be revealed at the end of each round. Answers for the bonus questions will be revealed at the end of the video.

| Pretest | Posttest |
|----------|----------|
| a) _____ | a) _____ |
| b) _____ | b) _____ |
| c) _____ | c) _____ |

Round One

- 1) _____ (5 points)
- 2) _____ (10 points)
- 3) _____ (15 points)

Bonus Question: _____ (10 points)

Round Two

- 4) _____ (5 points)
- 5) _____ (10 points)
- 6) _____ (15 points)

Bonus Question: _____ (10 points)

Round Three

- 7) _____ (5 points)
- 8) _____ (10 points)
- 9) _____ (15 points)

Bonus Question: _____ (5 points)

Round Four

- 10) _____ (5 points)
- 11) _____ (10 points)
- 12) _____ (15 points)

