

# Lesson Plan on the Battle of Britain

**Introduction:** In this activity, students will learn about the Battle of Britain.

**Illinois Educational Standards Addressed:**

16.A.3a Describe how historians use models for organizing historical interpretation (e.g., biographies, political events, issues and conflicts).

16.A.3b Make inferences about historical events and eras using historical maps and other historical sources.

16.A.3c Identify the differences between historical fact and interpretation.

16.C.3c (W) Describe the impact of technology (e.g., weaponry, transportation, printing press, microchips) in different parts of the world, 1500 – present.

16.A.4a Analyze and report historical events to determine cause-and-effect relationships.

16.A.4b Compare competing historical interpretations of an event.

16.A.5a Analyze historical and contemporary developments using methods of historical inquiry (pose questions, collect and analyze data, make and support inferences with evidence, report findings).

16.B.5a (W) Analyze worldwide consequences of isolated political events, including the events triggering the Napoleonic Wars and World Wars I and II.

**Objectives:**

Know the date and location of the Battle of Britain.

Know who the sides battling were and who their military leaders were.

Know what equipment such as what fighter planes were used by each side.

Know how each side did in the battle.

Know who the victor was.

Know what condition each side was in after the battle.

Know what the casualty amount was for each side.

Know what the reason for the battle was.

**In the classroom:**

Divide the students into three groups. Assign each group to be either United Kingdom, Germany, or Italy.

**At the library:**

Have the students groups research what part their country had in the Battle of Britain and answer these questions:

PRITZKER MILITARY LIBRARY  
610 NORTH FAIRBANKS COURT 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR, CHICAGO, IL 60611  
PHONE: 312.587.0234 FAX: 312.587.0536 WWW.PRITZKERMILITARYLIBRARY.ORG

Where and when did the battle take place? Why did this battle happen?

Who was their country's leader for this battle? How did their side prepare for the battle? What was their side's planned strategy? What equipment did their side use? What types of planes did their side use?

How did their side do during the battle? How was the outcome of the battle for their side? After the attack, what was the casualty amount for their army?

**Resources at the Pritzker Military Library:  
(also available through interlibrary loan from your local library)**

*Books:*

Bishop, Edward. *Their finest hour: the story of the Battle of Britain, 1940*. New York: Ballantine, 1968. Call Number: D786.B49 1968.

Clayton, Tim. *Finest hour: the battle of Britain*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 2002. Call Number: D756.5.B7 C56 2002.

Deighton, Len, 1929-. *Fighter: the true story of the Battle of Britain*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1978. Call Number: D756.5.B7 D44 1978.

Kaplan, Philip. *Their finest hour: the Battle of Britain remembered*. New York: Abbeville, 1989. Call Number: D756.5.B7 K37 1989.

Mosley, Leonard. *Battle of Britain*. Alexandria, VA: Time-Life, 1977. Call Number: D756.5.B7 M67 1977.

Overy, R. J. *The Battle of Britain: the myth and the reality*. New York: W.W. Norton, 2001. Call Number: D756.5.B7 O84 2000.

Robinson, Derek, 1932-. *Invasion, 1940: the truth about the Battle of Britain and what stopped Hitler*. New York: Carroll & Graf, 2005. Call Number: D771 .R59 2005.

*Videos:*

*The battle of Britain: prelude to battle*. Alexandria, VA: Time-Life, 1994. Call Number: D756.5.B7 1994.

Caine, Michael. *Battle of Britain*. [United States]: Metro Goldwyn Meyer Home Entertainment, 2003. Call Number: D756.5.B7 B38 2003.

Time-Life Video. *Britain stands alone 1940-41*. [Alexandria, VA]: Time-Life Video, 1994. Call Number: D431 .C4607 1994.