

Lesson Plan for World War II Historical Fiction Book Report

Introduction: In this activity, students will read one World War II themed historical fiction book and write a commentary report about the fact and fiction they read.

Illinois Educational Standards Addressed:

- 1.B.3d Read age-appropriate material with fluency and accuracy.
- 1.B.4a Preview reading materials, clarify meaning, analyze overall themes and coherence, and relate reading with information from other sources.
- 1.B.4b Analyze, interpret and compare a variety of texts for purpose, structure, content, detail and effect.
- 1.B.4c Read age-appropriate material with fluency and accuracy.
- 1.B.5a Relate reading to prior knowledge and experience and make connections to related information.
- 1.B.5b Analyze the defining characteristics and structures of a variety of complex literary genres and describe how genre affects the meaning and function of the texts.
- 1.B.5c Evaluate a variety of compositions for purpose, structure, content and details for use in school or at work.
- 1.B.5d Read age-appropriate material with fluency and accuracy.
- 1.C.3b Interpret and analyze entire narrative text using story elements, point of view and theme.
- 1.C.3c Compare, contrast and evaluate ideas and information from various sources and genres.
- 1.C.3d Summarize and make generalizations from content and relate them to the purpose of the material.
- 1.C.3e Compare how authors and illustrators use text and art across materials to express their ideas (e.g., foreshadowing, flashbacks, color, strong verbs, language that inspires).
- 1.C.3f Interpret tables that display textual information and data in visual formats.
- 1.C.4b Explain and justify an interpretation of a text.

1.C.4d Summarize and make generalizations from content and relate them to the purpose of the material.

1.C.5a Use questions and predictions to guide reading across complex materials.

1.C.5b Analyze and defend an interpretation of text.

1.C.5e Evaluate how authors and illustrators use text and art across materials to express their ideas (e.g., complex dialogue, persuasive techniques).

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

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).

Objectives:

Read a World War II historical fiction book and get the author's interpretations of different aspects of what was going on during the war and to separate for themselves the facts from the fiction of the book.

In the classroom:

Have each student choose a historical fiction book that has subject matter related to World War II.

After the student's have read their books, have them write a report that supplies this information:

The title and the author of the book.

A brief summary of the book with information about the plot and the setting and information about the main character(s).

What did the book have to do with World War II?

Where there any historical events, places, or people used in the book? What were they?

What did they like about the book?

What did they dislike about the book?

At the library:

Have the students research the historical events, places, and people used in their book to answer these questions:

- Did the author stick to the facts regarding these events, places, and people or did the author stretch the truth?
- Pretend all the characters in the book were real, are there enough other facts in this book to make it possible for this story to have really happened?

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