

# WORLD WAR 2 FOR MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL

SPECIAL ED



Special Needs for Special Kids





*This unit was created with this guy in mind. He has autism and an intellectual disability. He is a non-reader and takes end-of-year tests. With the right modifications, he is able to do this unit. He may not understand all the material, but he is being exposed to the general curriculum the same as his peers. He is my tester!!*



# World War 2 Unit for Special Education

By  
Christa Joy  
Special Needs for Special Kids



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In separate files you will find:

- Lesson plans
- Voice recorded PowerPoint
- Directions and links to digital activities

This unit contains almost 200 pages of material. But, don't worry!! I have included an **18 day lesson** plan to help you make the most of everything packed in this unit.

The color and black and white activities are in separate files.

# World War 2

## Lesson Plan

### Preparation


- Print out a vocabulary board for each student to use throughout unit
  - Laminate or place in page protector
- Book
  - Print out, laminate, and bind
  - OR your students can listen to the pre-recorded version
- Vocabulary cards
  - Print out a set of cards onto cardstock and laminate
  - Make one set for each student and also one for the teacher to use in I Spy games
- Print the large timeline cards on cardstock and laminate.
  - For additional ideas on how to use these, go to: <https://specialneedsforspecialkids.org/2018/06/13/making-a-life-sized-timeline/>
- Social story, "Why do I Need to Learn That?"
  - I would take the time and cost to print this out, laminate it, and bind it or place in a 3-ring binder. You will likely re-visit this story a lot during this lesson as well as other difficult topics you may teach throughout the year.

### Preassessment (do day 1 before starting lesson)

- Choose the form of the assessment that best fits the learning level of your students
- Give the assessment to assess what your students may already know
- I cannot emphasize enough how important this step is. If you want to see growth, this preassessment is so important!!

### Teaching Tips

1. *Color Coding*: this is a really easy way to add more structure to a matching activity. Outline or color in an empty box or sorting label. Outline or color in the corresponding picture symbols the same colors. Becomes a color matching task.
  - a. For more info, read more here: <https://specialneedsforspecialkids.org/2015/09/05/using-color-coding-for-differentiation/>



The lesson plans contain:  
Overall tips for teaching  
students with significant  
needs



## Quick Look

Day	Activity	Day	Activity	Day	Activity
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Book</li> <li>• Vocab cards activity</li> <li>• Circle map 1</li> </ul>	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Book</li> <li>• Vocab cards activity</li> <li>• Large timeline cards</li> <li>• Cut and paste timeline</li> </ul>	15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Book</li> <li>• Vocab cards activity</li> <li>• Close worksheet</li> </ul>
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Book</li> <li>• Vocab cards activity</li> <li>• Circle map 2</li> </ul>	9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Book</li> <li>• Vocab cards activity</li> <li>• Countries in the war (map activity)</li> </ul>	16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Book</li> <li>• Vocab cards activity</li> <li>• Close worksheet</li> </ul>
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Book</li> <li>• Vocab cards activity</li> <li>• Circle map 3</li> </ul>	10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Book</li> <li>• Vocab cards activity</li> <li>• Vocabulary cut and paste</li> </ul>	17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Book</li> <li>• Vocab cards activity</li> <li>• Close worksheet</li> </ul>
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Book</li> <li>• Vocab cards activity</li> <li>• Circle map 4</li> </ul>	11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Book</li> <li>• Vocab cards activity</li> <li>• Vocabulary cut and paste</li> </ul>	18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assessment</li> </ul>
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Book</li> <li>• Vocab cards activity</li> <li>• Circle map 5</li> </ul>	12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Book</li> <li>• Vocab cards activity</li> <li>• Close worksheet</li> </ul>		
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Book</li> <li>• Vocab cards activity</li> <li>• Sorting activity</li> </ul>	13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Book</li> <li>• Vocab cards activity</li> <li>• Close worksheet</li> </ul>		
7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Book</li> <li>• Vocab cards activity</li> <li>• Large timeline cards</li> </ul>	14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Book</li> <li>• Vocab cards activity</li> <li>• Close worksheet</li> </ul>		

*The lesson plans contain:*

*A quick look at what you will do each day*





## Day 13

Activity	Notes	Materials
Read or listen to a recording of the book (10 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Read through the story, asking lots of questions</li><li>• Continue to make connections between book and vocabulary board</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Book</li><li>• Vocabulary board</li></ul>
Vocabulary cards <b>Bean Bag Toss</b> (10 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Glue vocabulary cards to the paper plates (one on each plate)</li><li>• Arrange them around the room</li><li>• Students toss the bean bag trying to get it to land on a paper plate</li><li>• Students retrieve the paper plate and share the vocabulary card they retrieved</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Vocabulary cards</li><li>• Vocabulary cards cut apart</li><li>• Small paper plates (you can also use pieces of construction paper)</li><li>• Bean bags</li></ul>
Review Close worksheet (5 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Review close worksheet completed yesterday</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Completed worksheet from yesterday</li></ul>
Close Worksheet (10 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Complete the close worksheet on <b>Germany</b></li><li>• Use color coding if needed (see note on page 1 for more information)</li><li>• This is your first real chance to begin assessing if your students are making connections to the material.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Book (if needed for students to find answers)</li><li>• Vocabulary board</li><li>• Close worksheet</li><li>• Scissors</li><li>• Glue</li></ul>
Sharing (10 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Each student shares their finished close worksheet</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Completed worksheet</li><li>• Communication devices</li></ul>



The lesson plans contain:

Detailed instructions on how that day's lesson should run



On September 1, 1939 Germany invaded Poland. It was at this point Great Britain realized Germany had to be stopped and they, along with France, declared war on Germany. **World War II** had begun.



Christa Joy, Special Needs for Special Kids

On June 6, 1944 the Allied forces sent over 150,000 soldiers into France to drive back the German troops. This huge victory over Germany became the turning point of the war. Here is how they did it.

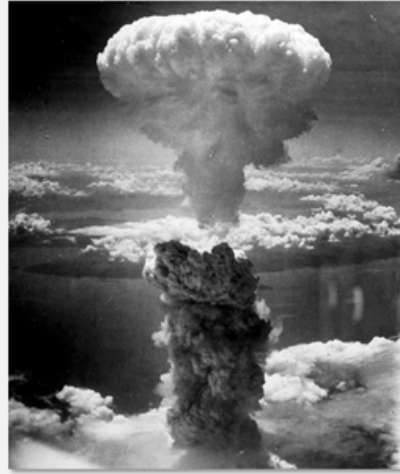


Christa Joy, Special Needs for Special Kids

*This unit contains a book that covers the main incidents and effects of World War 2 using wimple text and photos.*



It was President Truman who made the decision to drop the atomic bombs on Japan that ended the war.



Christa Joy, Special Needs for Special Kids



*There is a second book that specifically covers the US involvement in World War 2.*

Although many questioned Patton's extremely rough style of leadership, he was key in the Allied forces winning the Battle of the Bulge and continuing to drive out the German troops.
















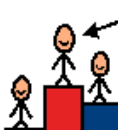



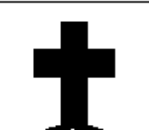

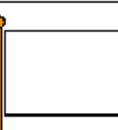



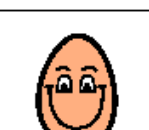






Christa Joy, Special Needs for Special Kids

*Both books come in a pdf AND a voice recorded powerpoint (so you will not have to print it out.)*





 World War 2	 Germany	 Great Britain	 Hitler	 Allies	 Axis
 invade	 battle	 strong	 weak	 Japan	 United States
 Pearl Harbor	 surprised	 turning point	 winner	 loser	 island
 concentration camp	 died	 Jewish people	 surrender	 atomic bomb	 plan
 repeat that	 I like that	 I don't like that	 just a minute	 I don't know	 I need a break

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This unit comes with a vocabulary board.

Vocabulary boards are great for ALL students to assist with participation and engagement in group discussions.

Tips on how to use in the unit!!



## World War 2 1939-1945

War started by Germany and Japan to gain control of more land. Involved almost every country in the world.



## Adolf Hitler

Leader of Germany who wanted to build a strong German race.



## League of Nations

Group of countries that came together to help rebuild Europe after the war.



## Allies

Countries that fought together in WW2 and included: Great Britain, France, Russia, China and the US.



## Axis

Countries that fought together in WW2 and included: Germany, Italy and Japan



## Emperor Hirohito

Leader of Japan. He wanted to extend the power and territory of his country.



## Pearl Harbor December 7, 1941

Surprise attack on the US by Japan at a naval port in Hawaii. It is why the US entered the war.



## Battle of Normandy June 6, 1944

Allied forces invade France and push the Germans back. It was the turning point of the war. Also called D-day.



This unit comes with 20 vocabulary cards.

Every day students will do a group activity using these cards to get more familiar with words that are likely new to them.



### paratroopers

Soldiers that jumped out of planes with a parachute.



### Battle of the Bulge December 1944

The last attempt by Germany to regain control of the territory. They lost and would soon surrender.



### Battle of Iwo Jima February 1945

The first attack by US on Japanese soil. Many soldiers died before the US won control of the island.

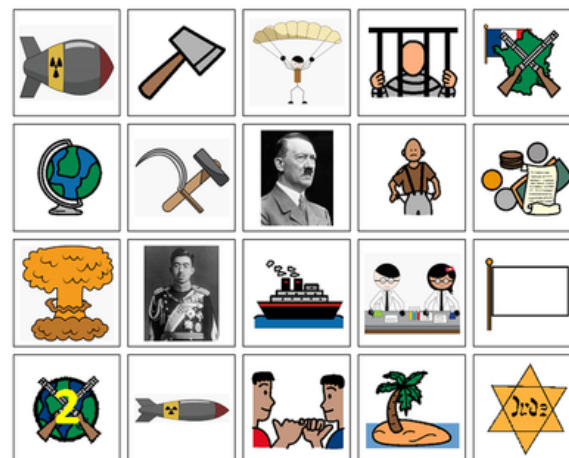


### ghettos

Poorest areas in the city that were fenced off and where the Jewish people had to live.



Match the pictures with the definitions on the previous pages.



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### Little Boy



### Fat Man



### Marshall Plan



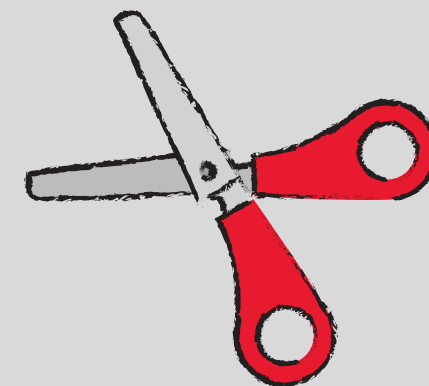
### Communism



definition to the pictures on the previous p

World War 2 ish people nto prisons ' million died.	Allied forces invade France and push the Germans back. It was the turning point of the war. Also called D-day.	Group togeth Europe
t fought W2 and many, Italy	First atomic bomb dropped by the US onto the Japanese city, Hiroshima. It destroyed the city and killed many.	The last att to regain con territory. They would soon surr
k by US on Many before the US of the island.	War started by Germany and Japan to gain control of more land. Involved almost every country in the world.	Horrible prisons w Jewish people were work and most often
c on the US naval port in why the US war.	Group of scientists who were brought together and given money to figure how to make an atomic bomb.	Leader of Japan. He war to extend the power and territory of his country.

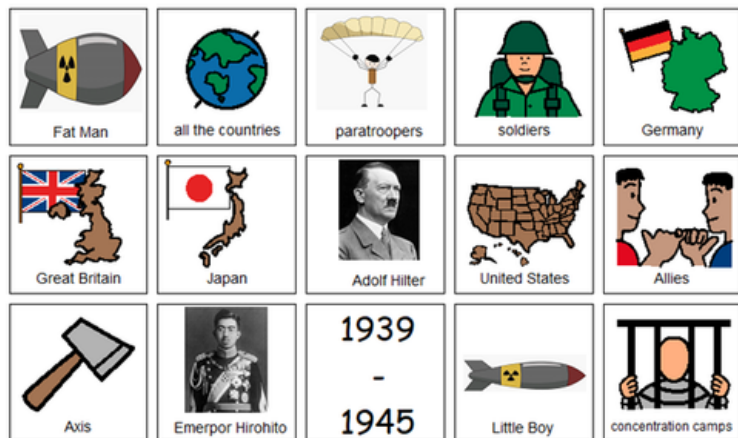
Students will also test their knowledge of these new words and symbols with a cut and paste activity.



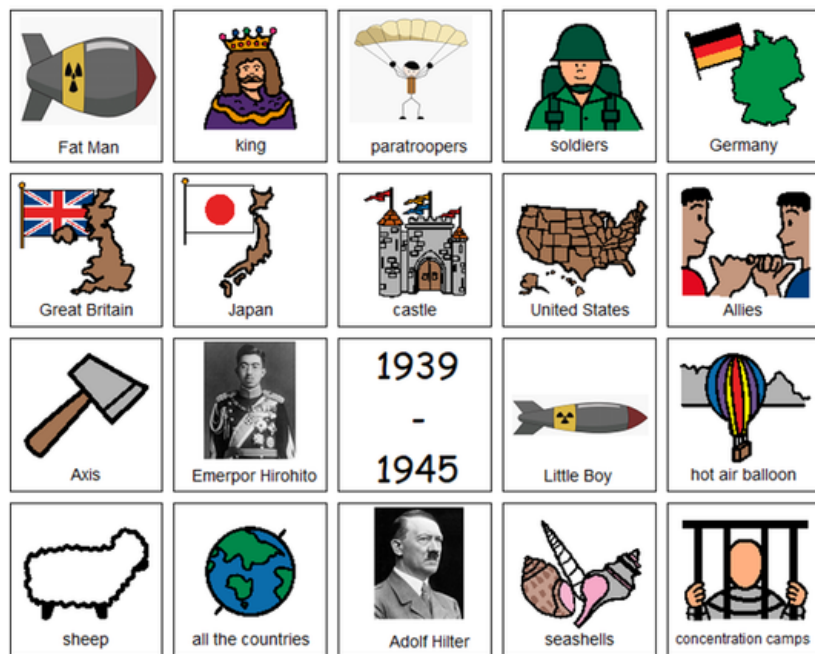


Errorless version

Cut apart pictures and place in circle map about WW2.



Cut apart pictures and place in circle map **ONLY IF** they relate to World War 2.



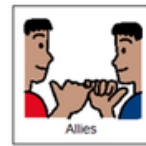
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This unit contains 4 circle maps: reviewing WW2, battles, Germany's involvement, Holocaust, and the atomic bomb. Circle maps are a great way to get the "big picture" of a topic. There are **2 versions**:

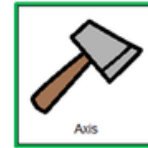
1. Errorless option with only correct answers
2. Wrong answers mixed in that students will have to set aside.





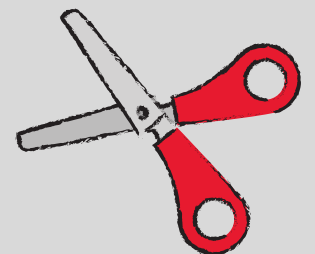


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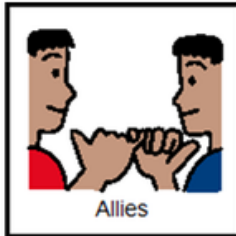
There is a sorting activity looking at Allied vs Axis forces. There is a color-coded version included for students who need more support.







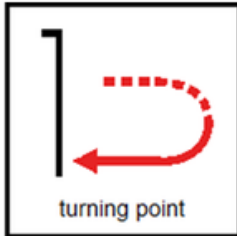
**June 6, 1944**  
Battle at Normandy/D-day  
The Allies push back  
Germany.



Allies



Normandy



turning point

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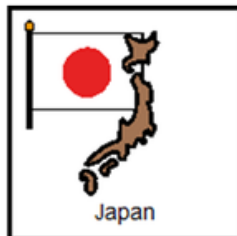
**August 9, 1945**  
The US drops an atomic  
bomb on Nagasaki, Japan.



United States



Fat Man



Japan

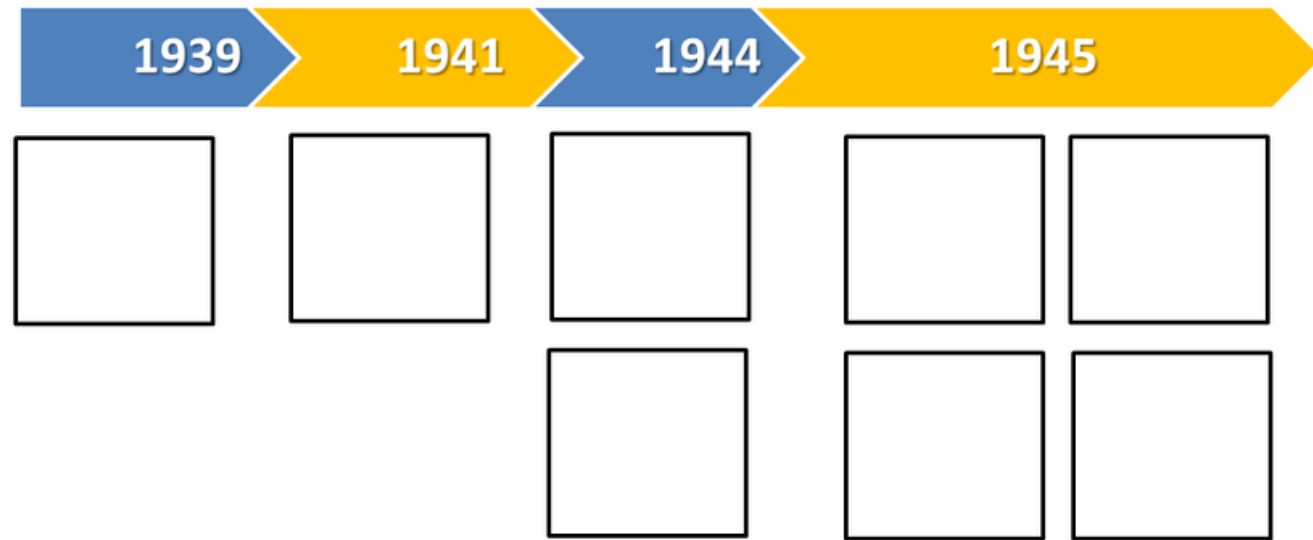
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*This unit contains 8 large  
timeline cards so your students  
can create a human timeline.*

*All the directions on how to do  
this great group activity is  
included!!*



# Time Line

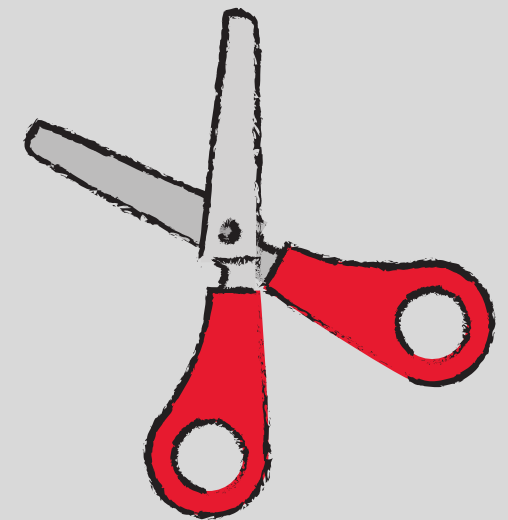


## Timeline symbols

 Pearl Harbor	 Fat Man	 Battle of Iwo Jima	 World War 2 begins
 Battle of the Bulge	 Battle of Normandy	 World War 2 ends	 Little Boy

There is a timeline students can assemble in this unit based on the large timeline cards.

Answer key included.





Color the countries that were Axis.

### Axis



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Color the countries that were Allies.

### Allies



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Color the countries that were in the two main powers.

Allies  
Axis

### World War 2



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There are 3 coloring activities to identify the countries involved in the war. They are outlined for more support.





## Facts on Germany

1.  was in charge of the German army.
2. He felt the  had caused Germany to lose WW1.
3. Germany started WW2 by invading .
4. Germany was winning the war in Europe until .
10. After the Battle of the bulge, Germany .



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## Facts on Iwo Jima

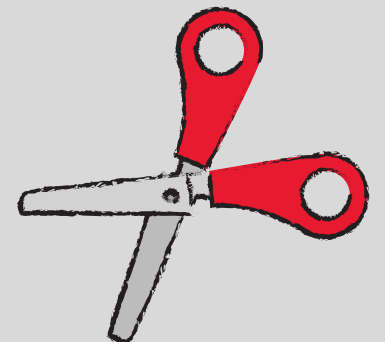
1. Iwo Jima was a small  off the coast of Japan.
2. The US wanted control of it for their .
3. When they landed, there were no Japanese at first. They were .
4.  US soldiers were killed at Iwo Jima.
5. But, the  finally gained control of the island.



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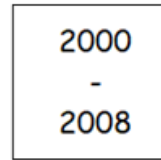
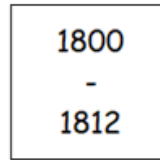
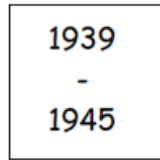
Close worksheets are a great informal assessment. This unit has 6 of them that review the following areas: WW2, Germany, the Holocaust, Pearl Harbor, Iwo Jima, and the atomic bomb.

Answer key included.





1. World War 2 took place from:



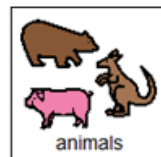
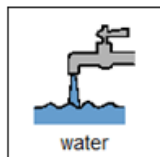
2. World War 2 Took place in:



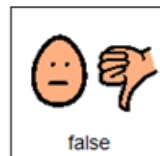
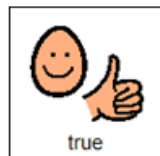
3. The war was started by:



4. Both Japan and Germany wanted more:



5. True or False. The US was in the war from the beginning.



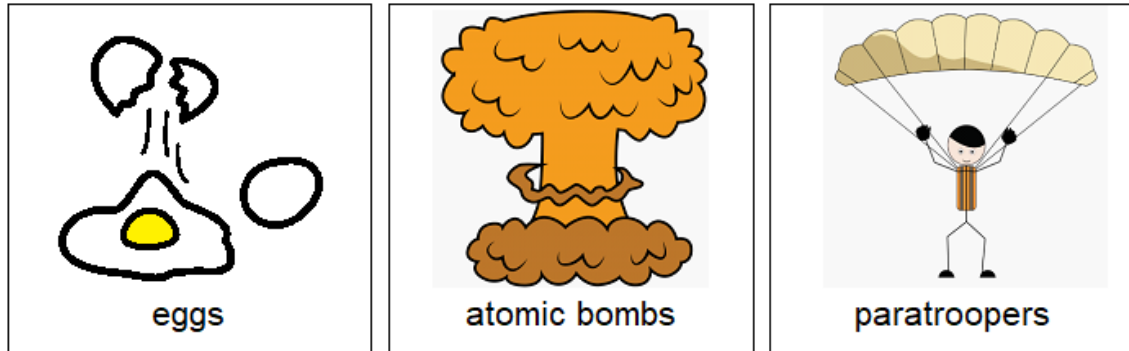
FINALLY the assessment!! There are 3 versions. This version has 15 questions with 3 picture choices for each question.

Answer key included.



Print onto cardstock or mount on index cards. Cut pictures apart and show student answer choices for each question.

Q 9



Q 10



With this version, you cut out the answer choices and glue them on index cards. Ask the student the question, and they point to the correct answer.



1. World War 2 took place from:
  - A. 1939-1945
  - B. 1800-1812
  - C. 2000-2008
2. World War 2 took place mainly in:
  - A. Europe
  - B. Canada
  - C. North Pole
3. The war was started by:
  - A. United States
  - B. Japan
  - C. Germany
4. Both Japan and Germany wanted more:
  - A. Water
  - B. Territory
  - C. Animals
5. True or False. The US was in the war from the beginning.
  - A. True
  - B. False
  - C. I don't know
6. The turning point of the war, when Germany started losing was:
  - A. Battle of Normandy
  - B. Iwo Jima
  - C. Pearl Harbor

*This is your traditional multiple choice version. It can also be used as a recording sheet if your students are using the version with index cards.*





Next, thousands of planes dropped bombs from the sky down on the German troops. Finally, the ships started sending bombs onto the beaches and nearby shoreline. The attack was coming from everywhere.

Watch the movie on World War 2

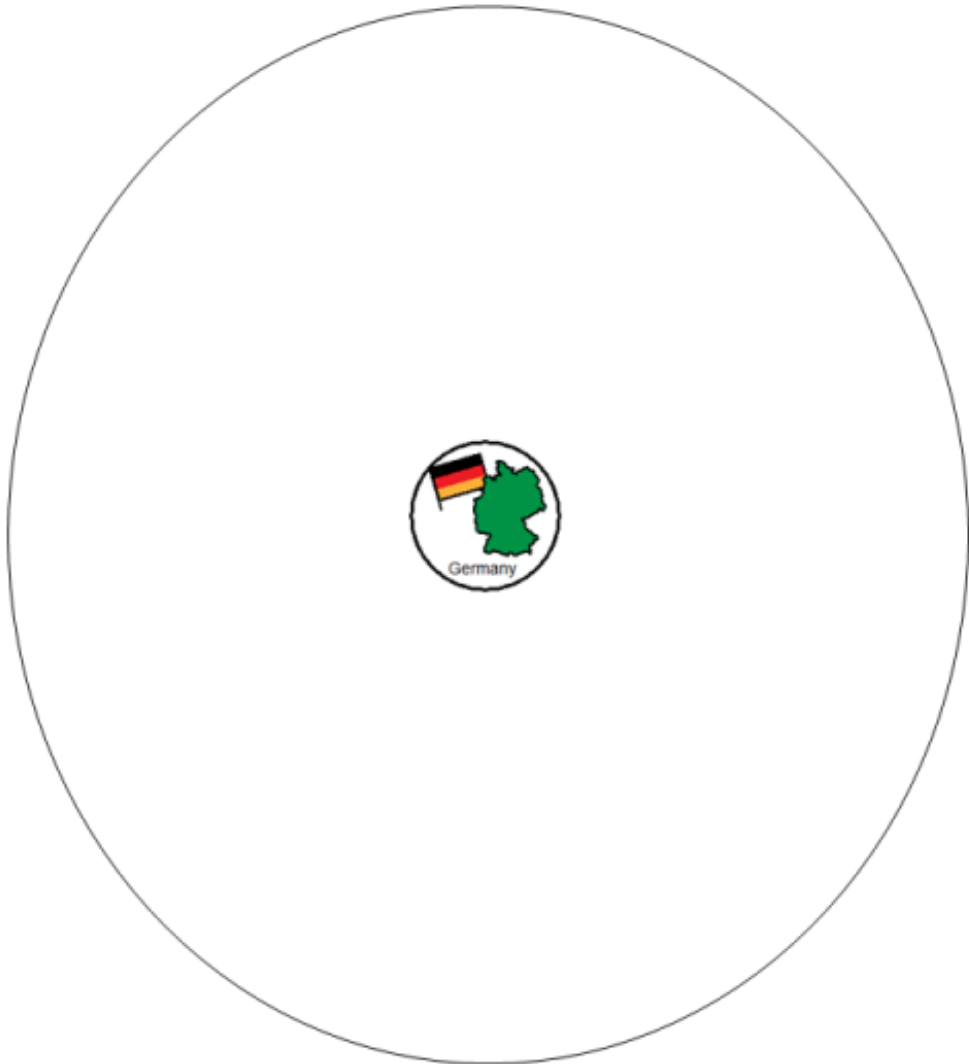


▶ 8:01 / 17:54



*This unit also has digital activities. There is a movie version of the books students can listen to read aloud.*





Place the pictures in the circle map about **Germany** during World War 2.



The digital activities have students click and drag their answers.





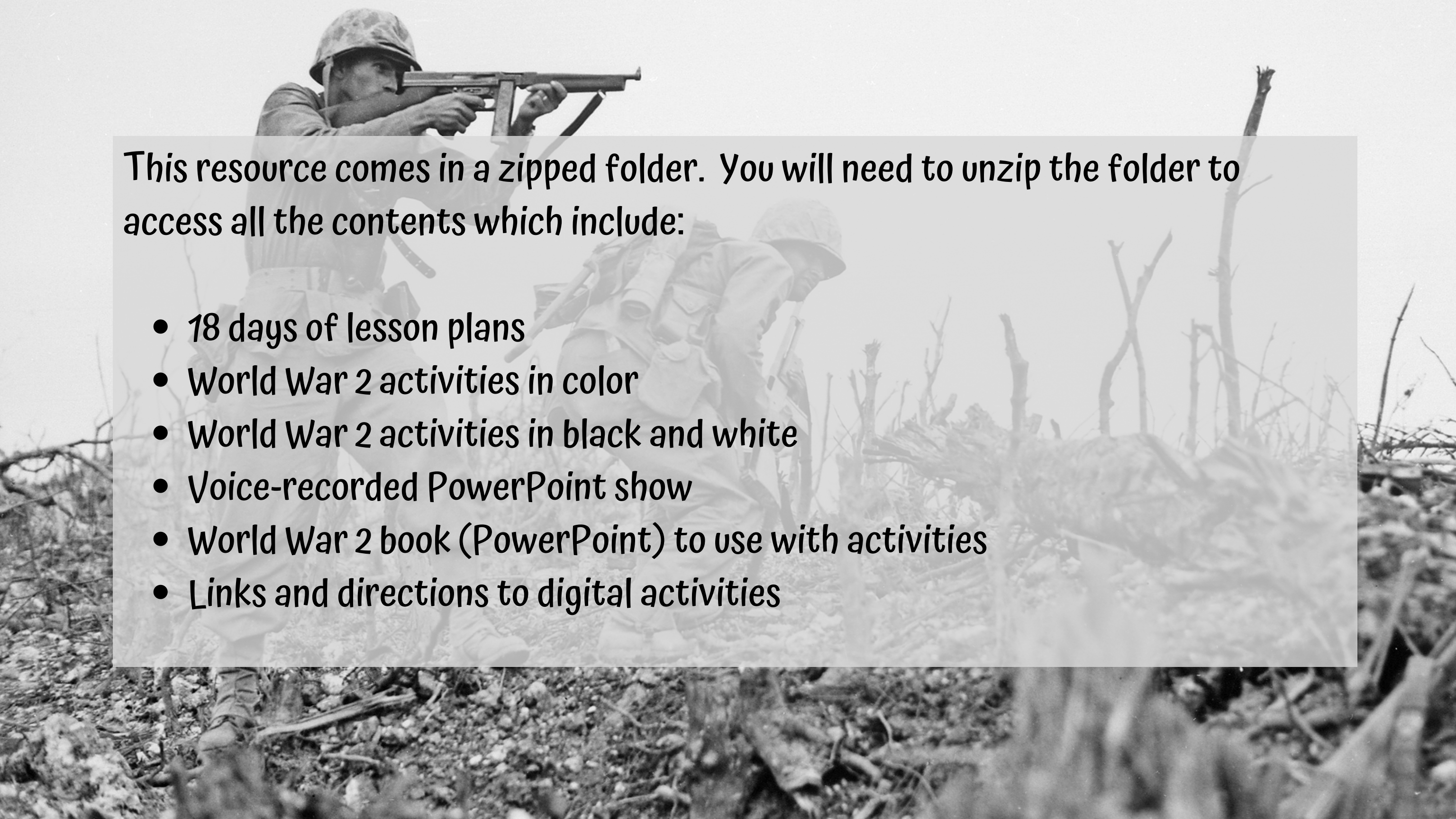
## World War 2 facts

1. World War 2 lasted  years.
2. World War 2 involved almost every country in the .
3.  started World War 2.
4. The attack on Pearl Harbor by Japan was a .
5. Soldiers that jumped out of airplanes were called .

Use the pictures to complete each sentence.



There are 2 sets of slides. One set has color-coding for more support.



***This resource comes in a zipped folder. You will need to unzip the folder to access all the contents which include:***

- ***18 days of lesson plans***
- ***World War 2 activities in color***
- ***World War 2 activities in black and white***
- ***Voice-recorded PowerPoint show***
- ***World War 2 book (PowerPoint) to use with activities***
- ***Links and directions to digital activities***