

# World War II Webquest Guide

**SSUSH19** The student will identify the origins, major developments, and the domestic impact of World War II, especially the growth of the federal government.

- Explain A. Philip Randolph's proposed march on Washington, D.C., and President Franklin D. Roosevelt's response.
- Explain the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor and the internment of Japanese-Americans, German-Americans, and Italian-Americans.
- Explain major events; include the lend-lease program, the Battle of Midway, D-Day, and the fall of Berlin.
- Describe war mobilization, as indicated by rationing, war-time conversion, and the role of women in war industries.
- Describe the Manhattan Project at Los Alamos and the scientific, economic, and military implications of developing the atomic bomb.
- Compare the geographic locations of the European Theater and the Pacific Theater and the difficulties the U.S. faced in delivering weapons, food, and medical supplies to troops.



Access the webquest using the link on the blog. Click on the first tile to begin the webquest. Each tile will contain sources, links, and information to help you complete this webquest guide. Complete the tasks required throughout the webquest.

## Unity and War Mobilization

- What does the word "mobilize" mean?
- What did President Roosevelt do with the factories that sat empty during the Great Depression?
- What types of products did these factories convert into producing?
- What does the term "rationing" mean?
- Why were supplies such as food, rubber and metal "rationed" during World War II?



**How did the government foster unity during World War II?  
How did Americans contribute to the war effort on the home front?**

## European & Pacific Theaters

- Why did the Japanese wish to attack the American naval base at Midway?
- How was the U.S. able to strategically plan for the attack on Midway?
- Why is the American victory at Midway important in the history of WWII?

4. What action did US, British and Soviet leaders agree was necessary to ensure Allied victory in WWII?
5. What was the name given to the planned invasion of Nazi-controlled France in June 1944?
6. What does “amphibious” mean?
7. What date was the planned invasion of Normandy scheduled for?
8. What effect did the D-Day invasion of Normandy have on the German military?
9. In the spring of 1945, what nation was on the cusp of seizing the German capital of Berlin?
10. In May 1945, what effect did the Soviet capture of Berlin have on the war?
11. In April 1945, who took over the Presidency after the death of FDR?
12. What was the Manhattan Project?
13. Where in the United States was the atomic bomb tested?
14. Who was one of the lead scientists who worked at developing the atomic bomb?
15. What strategic reasons did President Truman have for dropping the atomic bomb on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan?
16. What impact did the atomic bombs have on World War II?
17. Which two countries remained in economic control after WWII?
18. Define “superpower”:
19. How did the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War lay the ground work for the Cold War?



**How did wartime propaganda inform Americans' view of the conflict going on in the European and Pacific Theater?**

**How did World War II impact the American economy?**

## Marginalized Groups During World War II

1. What does it mean to be marginalized?
2. Which groups of Americans were marginalized in American society during the years before and during WWII?
3. Why were women used in factory jobs during World War II?
4. Who was "Rosie the Riveter"?
5. Why was World War II an important economic milestone in the history of women in the US?
6. What fate was supposed of women after the war was over?
7. How do you think many women reacted to this assumption?
8. Why were many African Americans hopeful of the economic situation during World War II?
9. What did A. Philip Randolph want to do to ensure equality for African Americans during this time?
10. How did President Roosevelt react to A. Philip Randolph's proposal?
11. What does "xenophobia" mean?
12. Why were many Japanese Americans viewed as threats during WWII?
13. As a result of these fears, what actions did FDR take concerning Japanese Americans?



**How were marginalized groups of Americans included in home front war efforts? How did marginalized groups either gain new freedoms or become further marginalized during World War II?**