EME Lesson Plan 5

Kathleen Sewell

Grade: 9-12

Subject: Social Studies

Strand: American History

Benchmark number: SS.912.A.6.5

Benchmark description: Explain the impact of World War II on domestic government policy.

Standard: Understand the causes and course of World War II, the character of the war at home and abroad, and its reshaping of the United States role in the post-war world.

Group size: Whole class, pairs

Learning Objectives: After completing this lesson, students will be able to articulate the impact that World War II had on American policies and on the American public.

Guiding Question: How did US domestic policy change with the advent of World War II? What kinds of opportunities and hardships did the war create for Americans at home?

Materials:

* Projector
* Class set of computers

Introduction:

World War II was a total war that affected all Americans, including those civilians who remained at home. The war was pervasive, and touched all Americans in multiple ways. This lesson will introduce students to the concept of a total war as it relates to the American home front during World War II. Student pairs will choose a topic of interest relating to American domestic policy or the American people during World War II, and will prepare a presentation for the class. Prior to this lesson, students will have already been introduced to the causes of World War II. This lesson will take six days to complete.

Procedures:

1. Discuss how the recent wars in Iraq and Afghanistan have affected the civilian public.
2. Briefly review the previous lessons about World War II.
3. Introduce the concept of a total war and relate it to World War II.
4. Have students choose an area of interest relating to the American home front during World War II and to explore how the war affected that topic.
5. Have students pair up with a partner with a similar interest. Topics of interest may include minorities, women, food, public policies, clothing, or children. Other topics may be explored with the teacher’s approval.
6. The student pairs will be asked to research their chosen interest. The teacher will help the pairs find resources based on their chosen interest and their readiness level. Students must conduct research on their topic with at least three sources, including two books and one approved website. Students will have two days in class to research their topic.
7. The pairs will prepare a three- to five-minute presentation on their topic. The students can choose to present their topic as a Prezi presentation, a video sketch, a series of propaganda posters, a student-made magazine, or in another approved manner. Students will have two days in class to prepare their presentation.
8. Have student pairs present their presentations.
9. Discuss the different points made in each presentation. Add any points the students have not covered.