

ACTIVITY PLAN



TITLE OF THE ACTIVITY

An archive more important than life

ENQUIRY QUESTION

Why documents created in the Warsaw ghetto are still important for us nowadays?

INDICATIVE AGE

16-19

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Importance of the documentation of the life and the history and its relevance for the future generations; difference between various type of the resistance: military one and civil/intellectual one; fact, that the first descriptions of the Holocaust were made by Jews imprisoned in the Warsaw ghetto – both witnesses and victims of the Shoah; the concept of the archive – what it can become and why people want to document their life;

PRIOR KNOWLEDGE OF STUDENTS

Basic knowledge about the World War II and the Holocaust

What do students already need to know to learn during this activity?

BLOCKS TO LEARNING

What are students likely to find particularly hard? What needs to be addressed in the lesson to make sure the planned learning can take place?

The concept of the ghetto; specific situation of the Jews in the General Governorate; difference between the German Nazi camps – labour camps, concentration camps and the death camps;

LESSON STRUCTURE

As it's described in "the course of the workshop" in a file "1. Workshop plan.pdf":

1. An introductory discussion.
2. Working with documents of the Underground Archive of the Warsaw Ghetto.
3. Dividing the students into groups, give them documents and let them to get familiar with the materials.
4. Write questions that could help students prepare for the discussion.
5. Conduct discussion about the documents from the each group of the students.
6. Begin discussion by making reference to Task 1 and ask them what they could put inside a treasure chest nowadays.

ACTIVITY PREPARATION

Download all the pdf files from the section 'Teacher materials', print file "2.Documents.pdf" to let students use them during the class.

DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTIVITY

As it's described in "the course of the workshop" in a file "1. Workshop plan.pdf":

1. An introductory discussion – talk to the students and ask them what an archive is and what associations come to their minds in connection with this word.

2. Working with documents of the Underground Archive of the Warsaw Ghetto – introduce the students with the topic and tell them about the circumstances in which the authors of the archive worked, how it was founded and what it dealt with in the ghetto. Talk about the situation in the ghetto – hunger, diseases, and endless persecution of the Jewish community.

3. Divide students into groups and give them the pre-printed packets with work materials. Give the students ten minutes to become familiar with the materials, and write questions that help them to prepare for the discussion.

4. Conduct the discussion about the materials given to the students – what do they found there and what do they know thanks to them.

5. The Archive of your city/town – begin discussion with the students by making reference to the first task and ask them once again what they would put inside a treasure chest, now when they have acquired knowledge about the Ghetto Archive. What memory of their city/town would they want to preserve and pass on to the next generation?

ASSESSMENT



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