Holocaust Timeline Project

Most people believe that the Holocaust was limited to the time period during the Nazi control of Europe. There has always been anti-Semitism discrimination throughout the world during many time periods. This project provides students with a larger scope and sequence of the progression of the Holocaust. Students will learn what events lead up to the Holocaust, the events during the Holocaust and how the Holocaust ended.

Each student will be placed in the following groups and will work together to research a different aspect of the Holocaust.

- Roman Dispersion of Jews/Anti-Semitism before the 20th Century
- Rise of Adolf Hitler and the Nazi Party
- Nazi Control of Germany (First Solution & Second Solution)
- The Final Solution
- Concentration Camps
- Ghettos
- Nazi Cover-up/Allied Liberation

Each group will research their assigned topic, answering several questions that will be provided. The group will place the major events from their topic on colored 3”x 5” cards with the date and description of the event. This will be placed on the class timeline. Each event will be accompanied by at least one separate picture.

After the Timeline is displayed, the rest of the class will be given the same questions that each group received as part of their research. The students will then answer the questions according to the information on the Timeline.
Roman Dispersion of Jews/ Anti-Semitism
Before the 20th Century

(White)

As a member of a team, you will need to use all available resources to produce a thorough list of events revealing evidence of the Holocaust. In addition to providing an overview of the Holocaust, you'll want to make sure your research includes numerous primary sources.

Primary sources of information are actual historic materials such as documents, photographs, sounds and movies, produced by individuals who were present.

Your group must provide a summary handout for your teacher as well as a bibliography for all of your sources.

Question:

- What were some of the restrictions that Roman laws placed on Jews?
- Why did the Romans disperse the Jews throughout their Empire?
- How did the Crusades lead to mob attacks on Jewish communities?
- Why did Jews resort to jobs like trading, tax collecting, moneylending, and peddling?
- Why did Jews become an important part of the new mercantile economy?
- Why did kings expel Jews from France, England, Spain, Portugal, and some German lands?
- How did Nationalism give rise to New Secular (Nonreligious) Anti-Jewish feeling?

Understanding The Holocaust, Betty Merti, J. Weston Walch, 1995
Rise of Adolf Hitler and the Nazi Party

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Questions:

- Why was late nineteenth-century Austria the center of many nationalistic arguments?
- How did Hitler evaluate Germans compared to other nationalities? Eastern Europeans? Jews?
- How did Hitler explain the German defeat in World War I? Who else promoted the same conclusion?
- What divine mission did Hitler come to believe he had?
- Why was Hitler’s and the Nazi’s first try in taking over Germany a failure?
- As a convict in Landsberg Prison, what new course of action for the Nazi takeover of Germany did Hitler decide upon?
- What was the biggest fear of the people of Germany and what did Hitler and the Nazi party promise to do for them?
- How did Hitler remove the shame of defeat in World War I from the German people?
- How did the Nazi party gain the majority in the Reichstag and begin to run the government?

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Questions:

- What Anti-Jewish laws were passed in 1933, 1935, & 1938?

- How were German Jews segregated socially and economically?

- What goal of the “New Order” did Hitler achieve in 1938? 1939? How did this add to the Jewish Problem?

- Before a Jew could emigrate, what requirements did he/she have to meet?

- Why did the United States refuse to allow more Jewish refugees in?

- Why was the Second Solution to the Jewish Question only temporary?

- Under Nazi invaders, why did Poles---Jews and non-Jews alike---have to move out of western Poland?

- How did Hitler use and abuse Jewish slave laborers?

- In the countries of Western Europe, why did the SS move more cautiously in their anti-Jewish activities?
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Questions:

- List the Ghettos, classifying them as Eastern and Central Europe.
- What was life like for the Jews in the Ghettos?
- How did the Jews survive within the Ghettos?
- What was the most critical Jewish uprising in the Ghettos?
- Why did the Polish resistance decide to give a few weapons to the Warsaw Jewish fighters?
- What battle tactics did the Nazi Storm troopers use against the Jewish uprising?
- What was the procedure in processing the Jews from the Ghettos to the Death Camps?
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Questions:

- Who was in charge of all the Death Camps for the Nazi party?
- How many Death Camps were in operation during the Nazi occupation of Europe?
- Describe the mode of travel from the Ghettos to the Death Camps.
- On arrival, who went to the left and who went to right?
- What was used to exterminate the Jews in the camps?
- What two methods were used to dispose of the bodies?
- Why was the first method of disposing the bodies changed?
- For those who were left, what kind of conditions did they face?

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Questions:

- What were the gas vans?
- What was Code Name “T4”?
- When and on whom were Nazi experiments with gas chambers and killer gases first used?
- What were the full plans for the Final Solution revealed at the Wannsee Conference?
- Why were the millions of Jews in the ghettos of Poland the first to die?
- If so many Rumanian Jews were given the chance to emigrate to freedom during the war, why didn’t more go?
- Besides Jews, who were the other victims?
- How many people dies in the Nazi gas chambers?
Nazi Cover-Up/Allied Liberation
(Purple)

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Questions:

- Why did Himmler order the total liquidation of the Ghettos in Poland?

- How did the Nazi camp leaders try to cover-up all the evidence of their war crimes?

- As the Allies marched through Nazi held territory, what did they find in the Death Camps?

- What did the guards and Camp leaders do as the Allies came close to their camps?

- How much did the civilian population of Germany and Poland know about the Death Camps?

- How much help did bystanders offer Jews?

- What happened on November 29, 1948?

- Why were the Nuremberg trials organized to do?

- What were the outcomes of the Nuremberg Trials?

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