

**Lesson Plan- Japan**

**Japan**      **Time Period- 1940s**

**End of WWII – focusing on the bombing Hiroshima and Nagasaki**

Rationale of Lesson:

For students to understand the consequences of nuclear warfare and how it has impacted modern warfare.

Objective:

Explain both the development of the atomic bomb and debates about its use.

Essential Questions for this Lesson:

Is the use of nuclear weapons acceptable as an attempt to end warfare even if it affects civilians?

Resources:

Hersey, John. *Hiroshima*. Ishi, 2009.

*Hiroshima and Nagasaki Remembered*. AJ Software & Multimedia, 2005. Web.

*White Light/Black Rain: The Destruction of Hiroshima and Nagasaki*. Dir. Steven Okazaki. HBO, 2007. DVD.

Standards: (Ohio)

Grade Nine.

History.

Benchmark E: Analyze connections between World War II, the Cold War, and contemporary conflicts.

-20<sup>th</sup> *Century Conflict*.

11. Analyze the consequences of World War II including:
  - a. Atomic weapons;
  - b. Civilian and military losses;

Instruction: (4-5 class periods of 45 min.)

Strategy:

Students will be given lab time to navigate the website (<http://www.hiroshima-remembered.com/>) students will pick 3 topics from “The Story of Hiroshima” and “The Story of Nagasaki”. They will also choose a photo from each story. They will then write a journal entry as someone living in Japan during the events.

Students will be given a copy of “Hiroshima” by John Hersey. They will be reading this in conjunction with their assignment from the above mentioned website. Periodic chapter questions will be given throughout reading time.

The final 2 class periods, students will watch the documentary “White Light/Black Rain”. This film follows 14 survivors and includes interviews with American troops. Following the completion of selected clips, students will write a persuasive essay. This essay will provide an argument for/against the use of the atomic bombs. Students must use information learned from this lesson to provide support for their argument.

Assessment:

As mentioned above, assessment will be based on journal entries, chapter questions, and the persuasive essay. Emphasis will be placed on the essay; students must provide a strong argument to defend their position.