Japanese American Internment in Colorado
Teacher Online Resources and Curriculum

WEBSITES

Amache Preservation Society
This site contains information about society’s efforts to preserve the “Amache Relocation Center,” photographs and documents from the center, and information on the annual pilgrimage to the center held in mid-May.
http://amache.org

University of Denver Amache Research Project
This website logs ongoing preservation and interpretation efforts in the region through the partnership of the local community, surviving internees, History Colorado’s State Historical Fund, and the University of Denver. In addition, it contains up-to-date archeological findings from the site and information on collaborative exhibits and programs.
https://portfolio.du.edu/amache

442nd Regimental Combat Team Historical Society
This website will tell the story of the 442nd primarily using World War II-era documents obtained from the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) at College Park, Maryland, as well as from other archives, libraries, and individuals. Its purpose is to let the documents of the time tell the 442nd’s story.
http://www.the442.org/home.html

National Park Service Website on Manzanar
The National Park Service offers resources, information, and interpretation of Manzanar and other relocation sites.
http://www.nps.gov/manz/forteachers/educator-resources-box.htm

Japanese American Citizens League
Founded in 1929, the Japanese American Citizens League is the oldest and largest Asian American civil rights organization in the United States. It offers curriculum and resources about the Japanese American internment experience.
www.jacl.org
Japanese American National Museum
The Japanese American Museum is the only museum in the United States dedicated to sharing the historical experience of Americans of Japanese ancestry.
www.janm.org

Densho: The Japanese American Legacy Project
Densho’s mission is to preserve the oral histories of Japanese Americans who were unjustly incarcerated during World War II. The site offers firsthand accounts of internment with historical images and teacher resources that explore principles of democracy and equal justice.
www.densho.org

Japanese American Relocation Digital Archives
This website contains thousands of Japanese American internment primary source materials, including personal diaries, US War Relocation Authority materials, and personal histories.
http://www.calisphere.universityofcalifornia.edu/jarda/

Japanese American Veterans Program
Originally created to convey stories about the patriotic Nisei experience during WWII, the site represents Japanese American Veterans’ organizations throughout the United States
http://javadc.org/main.htm

Go For Broke
The Go For Broke National Education Center preserves the legacy of the Japanese American veterans whose heroism and sacrifices during World War II triumphed over racism and intolerance.
www.goforbroke.org

A More Perfect Union: Japanese Americans and the U.S. Constitution
This Smithsonian National Museum of American History online exhibit explores the events surrounding the Japanese American internments, when racial prejudice and fear upset the delicate balance between the rights of the citizen and the power of the state.
http://americanhistory.si.edu/perfectunion/experience/index.html

Personal Justice Denied
Personal Justice Denied is a 493-page report written in 1982 by the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians, a government body designed to investigate the impact of Executive Order 9066 and the internment camps on the citizens and permanent residents of Japanese ancestry.
http://www.nps.gov/history/history/online_books/personal_justice_denied/)
Anti-Defamation League
Using video histories of Japanese American internees during World War II, this lesson engages students in understanding the discrimination that Japanese Americans faced before and after their internment. In addition, it introduces students to the Civil Liberties Act of 1988 and fosters discussion about whether or not it made up for the discrimination that Japanese Americans received from the U.S. government.
http://www.adl.org/education/curriculum_connections/summer_2008/

Tutt Library at Colorado College
The resources included in this archive focus on Amache and include original documents and links to Amache resources housed in other libraries. Although teaching materials are not included, the primary sources are well worth a look and can be easily used in the classroom.
http://coloradocollege.edu/Library/Specialcollections/Manuscript/Amache/Amache.html

Bancroft Library at the University of California at Berkley
JARDA is a digital "thematic collection" within the CDL's OAC documenting the experience of Japanese Americans in World War II internment camps. Curators from the eight participating OAC members selected a broad range of primary sources to be digitized, including photographs, documents, manuscripts, paintings, drawings, letters, and oral histories.
http://bancroft.berkeley.edu/collections/jarda.html

The Library of Congress Ansel Adams Collections
One of the best known collections of primary sources and photographs of Japanese American Internment in the country is housed at the Library of Congress in the Ansel Adams Collection ~ Photographs from Manzanar.
http://www.loc.gov/pictures/collection/manz/

Confinement and Ethnicity: An Overview of World War II Japanese American Relocation Sites
This website includes online resources on relocation sites adapted from a 1999 print publication (rev. 2000) that is no longer available in print form.
http://www.nps.gov/history/history/online_books/anthropology74/index.htm

Program for Teaching East Asia – University of Colorado
The Program for Teaching East Asia (TEA) at the Center for Asian Studies conducts national, regional, and state projects designed to enhance and expand teaching and learning about East Asia at the elementary and secondary levels. Specific projects focus on curriculum development, professional development for teachers, and curriculum consultation and reform related to Asia in K–12 education.
http://www.colorado.edu/cas/tea/index.htm
Children of the Camps
An extensive collection of resources based on the PBS documentary, Children of the Camps.
http://www.pbs.org/childofcamp/

LESSON PLANS

Teaching the Japanese American Experience: An Educator's Tool Kit by the Japanese American National Museum (JANM)
Teaching the Japanese American Experience: An Educator’s Tool Kit was designed as a resource for classroom teachers interested in teaching the Japanese American experience to their classes in U.S. History, Civics, Social Studies, Language Arts, and/or Visual Arts. The Tool Kit, packaged in CD-ROM format, is meant to have a home in your school’s library and/or teacher resource room, so that it may be accessible to all educators in your school. Included on the CD are approximately 30 lesson plans (K–12), an overview of Japanese American history, the Historical Formations from Dr. Gary Y. Okihiro’s Curriculum Framework, an historic timeline, and additional teacher resources. The Tool Kit is free with only a $5.00 shipping/handling charge. (Limit one Tool Kit per school. Available on a first-come, first-served basis.)
http://www.janm.org/education/toolkit/

Enduring Communities by the Japanese American National Museum (JANM)
In collaboration with five partner anchor institutions—Arizona State University’s Asian Pacific American Studies Program; University of Colorado, Boulder; University of New Mexico; UTSA’s Institute of Texan Cultures; and Davis School District, Utah, Enduring Communities: The Japanese American Experience in Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, Texas, and Utah is an ambitious three-year project dedicated to re-examining an often-neglected chapter in U.S. history and connecting it with current issues of today. Educational curricula about the Japanese American World War II experience specific to each of the five state’s needs.
“I am an American” Grade Level: 4, 5, 6
“Civil Liberties: What Are They? Who Needs Them?” Grade Level: 8
“Enduring Voices” Grade: Secondary
“Governor Ralph L. Carr: One Voice against the Tyranny of the Majority” Grade Level:
Secondary
*All material available online*

http://www.janm.org/projects/ec/curricula/co/

Educational Materials by Japanese American Civil Liberties (JACL)
http://www.jacl.org/edu/edu-resources.htm

• A Lesson in American History: The Japanese American Experience, 5th Edition
This curriculum and resource guide is a comprehensive tool to help educators develop a unit on the WWII Japanese American internment experience for elementary through high school classes. Contents include historical overview, lesson plans, and resource materials.

• Civil Liberties in Times of Crisis: The Japanese American Experience. © 2005
This supplementary curriculum and resource DVD for middle and high school classes is packaged with item 1: A Lesson in American History: The Japanese American Experience.

• The Journey from Gold Mountain: The Asian American Experience. © 2006
This guide provides a comprehensive treatment of Asian American history to enrich understanding about this fast-growing population. It includes lesson plans, a chronology of important events in the Asian American experience, and a list of resource books.

Smithsonian in Your Classroom
These lesson plans are produced by the Center for Education and Museum Studies. Teachers may duplicate these materials for educational purposes.
http://www.smithsonianeducation.org/educators/lesson_plans/japanese_internment/lesson1_main.html

Anti-Defamation League: Voices of Japanese Americans
Using video histories of Japanese American internees during World War II, this lesson engages students in understanding the discrimination that Japanese Americans faced before and after their internment. In addition, students will be introduced to the Civil Liberties Act of 1988, and discuss whether or not it made up for the discrimination that Japanese Americans received from the U.S. government.
http://www.adl.org/education/curriculum_connections/summer_2008/default.asp

Are We American Again? A Portrait of Japanese American Internment
This website contains a five-day lesson plan schedule based on using the artwork of Estelle Ishigo, a Caucasian woman who married Arthur Ishigo, a Nisei man. She did not have to go to a relocation camp but decided to go rather than be separated from her husband.
http://ipr.ues.gseis.ucla.edu/classroom/IshigoPlans/ajlesson/ajlessonplan.html

National Park Service
The War Relocation Centers of World War II: When Fear was Stronger than Justice
This lesson plan addresses a larger issue of what happened after Pearl Harbor and the attack on the World Trade Center.
National Archives Teaching Resources
The National Archives Administration has a large collection of resources on Japanese American internment and relocation accessible to students and teachers. Resources include documents, teaching activities, and analysis sheets that support the study of this era.
http://www.archives.gov/education/lessons/japanese-relocation/

War Relocation Authority Photographs of Japanese–American Evacuation and Resettlement, 1942–1945
The Online Archive of California provides access to this collection of War Relocation Authority photographs at the Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley. The archive includes more than 7,000 photographs taken by War Relocation Authority staff from 1942–45. Click on "Container Listings" to view photos from all relocation centers.
http://www.oac.cdlib.org/findaid/ark:/13030/tf596nb4h0/

Stanford Program for International and Cross–Cultural Education (SPICE):
SPICE houses exemplary curriculum on a variety of topics in both American and world history. Although the curriculum is not free, the award-winning Japanese American unit and resources have received national acclaim.
http://spice.stanford.edu/docs/168

Heart Mountain Interpretative Center
The official site of Heart Mountain Relocation Center in Wyoming provides an overview of the site, educational resources for the classroom, and event information. Included on the site are curriculum modules for elementary to high school students and a virtual tour.
http://www.heartmountain.org/

EdSitement Teaching Resources
Teaching resources from educator fellows with the National Endowment for the Humanities EdSitement program. Lesson plans focus on a humanities approach to the study of internment/relocation and provide access to primary sources.

Asia Society
A lesson provided by one of the premier Asian education organizations in the country which includes a role–playing and discussion exercise on the Japanese American internment in the 1940s.

Japanese American Relocation Digital Archives
Teacher–created lesson plans for grades 4–12 are based on the art and writings of
internee Estelle Ishigo, official photographs, and other selected primary sources. Views and Voices from Within: The Art and Writing of Estelle Ishigo, Heart Mountain Relocation Center, 1942–45 (Grades 4–5) Are We Americans Again?: A Portrait of Japanese American Internment (Grades 6–8) Beauty Behind Barbed Wire: The Relocation Camp Experience of Estelle Ishigo (Grades 9–12)
http://www.calisphere.universityofcalifornia.edu/jarda/lesson_plans/index.html

Japanese Digest Collection
Housed at Stanford University, the Japanese Digest Collection illuminates ways in which the Japanese American internment experience can be taught in the classroom. Other digests include references to Japanese culture, society, and traditions.

VIDEOS

9066 to 9/11

Days of Waiting
Steven Okazaki, producer/director, 28 minutes. DVD. Academy award–winning documentary about Estelle Ishigo.

Return to the Valley
Produced by California PBS and the California Civil Liberties Public Education Program, this documentary details the experiences of Japanese Americans in returning home after relocation to resettle and begin their lives again.
http://www.returntothevalley.org/about.html

PRIMARY SOURCE SETS

A lesson developed by teachers at the Library of Congress: http://www.loc.gov/teachers/classroommaterials/lessons/fear

Four ARS on the Colorado Teaching with Primary Sources website developed by teachers: http://www.mscd.edu/tps/resources/resourcesets.shtml#War

**ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

**Japanese American Resource Center of Colorado**

1255 19th St. (Second floor in Sakura Square)

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