



Volunteerism in World War II – How did Civilians help in the War Effort?

Objective: TLW identify and analyze volunteerism on the home front during World War II by investigating the purpose and responsibilities of Civil Defense, war bond sales, Victory Gardens and other acts of patriotism taken on by civilians during the war years in Williamson County

TEKS: 7G

Explain the home front and how American patriotism inspired exceptional actions by citizens and military personnel, including volunteerism; the purchase of war bonds; and Victory Gardens...

Focus Activity: Ask for a volunteer...ask for volunteerism...address students who question you about “what they are volunteering for” and “what do they get out of volunteering for you”. Explain what volunteerism is today and why people volunteer. Now transition to the war years and explain why civilians would be asked to volunteer.

Image Analysis, students brainstorm what they think the collection of images in the Volunteerism folder represent. Expand on what students might think colors, symbols, abbreviations and titles mean in the context of World War II.

Lesson: Utilizing the primary and secondary sources provided, have students identify the purpose and responsibilities for the topics listed on the Volunteerism in World War II chart.

Processing:

Option 1) Students create their own advertisements to promote volunteerism during World War II using one of the topics found on the World War II chart. Advertisement must have a slogan, color and identify the reasons for the volunteer effort and the impact it would have.

Option 2) Students create a comic strip of 3 to 5 boxes illustrating the impact volunteerism had during World War II using one of the topics found on the World War II chart. Comic strip must have color and captions explaining the volunteer act to its final impact.

Option 3) Students write their own letter of appreciation from a governmental agency to a volunteer or volunteer effort from the World War II time period. Using one of the topics found on the World War II chart, students must identify the governmental agency, what the volunteer did, explain its importance in the war effort and promote continued patriotic volunteerism.

Materials: Included in this trunk/lesson are the

- Image Analysis folder for the Focus Activity
- Primary and Secondary sources for the Lesson
- Volunteerism in World War II chart for the Lesson