



Rationing in World War II – Making Sure Everyone Had Enough

Objective: TLW analyze the role rationing had during World War II on both a local and national scale.

TEKS: 17A

Describe the economic effects of World War II on the home front such as...rationing

Focus Activity: Image Analysis, students brainstorm what they think the poster in the Rationing folder represents. Expand on who they think is the targeted audience for the government poster.

Lesson: Assign students The Williamson Museum Rationing Chart. With this Rationing Chart, students will record one day usage of all items identified and used by students. After completing the Rationing Chart, students will compare the amount and type of items they used in one day with Rationing restrictions utilized during World War II.

Students will use the primary and secondary sources found in the Rationing folder to identify the role rationing had during World War II and its economic impact on the home front and war front by answering the following questions –

- a) What is rationing?
- b) Why was rationing utilized during World War II?
- c) How did rationing impact civilians on the home front?
- d) How did rationing impact soldiers on the war front?
- e) Was rationing a successful program during the war years?

Processing:

Option 1) Students create a Venn diagram comparing the rationing program of World War II in the United States with current recycling/Green programs in the United States and how they are similar and different in economic, social and political impacts.

Option 2) Students create a week long journal of what they would and would not have access to on a day to day basis if utilizing World War II rationing guidelines. After completing a week of journaling, students create a poster that illustrates the economic, social and political benefits of rationing.

Materials: Included in this trunk/lesson are the

- Rationing folder with Primary and Secondary sources for the Focus Activity and Lesson
- Rationing Chart for the Lesson