

World War II Scrapbook Project

A Historical Narrative & Primary Source Project

TEACHER PACKAGE

Lesson Overview

In this project, students construct a scrapbook that tells the story of a fictional character living through World War II. The scrapbook blends historical accuracy, personal narrative, and creative presentation. Students may work **individually or with one partner**.

This project encourages:

- Historical empathy
- Primary and secondary source analysis
- Research synthesis
- Narrative writing
- Visual and creative expression

Learning Objectives

Students will:

- Analyze World War II through both personal and global perspectives
- Interpret and apply primary and secondary historical sources
- Demonstrate understanding of key events, leaders, and themes of WWII
- Create a historically grounded narrative using evidence
- Communicate understanding creatively and effectively

Project Structure (Teacher Reference)

- Students must complete **at least 10 components**
- **Components 1–5 are required**
- Teachers may assign their own point values, weighting, or grading rubric
- Project works well as:
 - Unit capstone
 - Gallery walk
 - Presentation project
 - Cross-curricular history/ELA assignment

Adaptations & Notes

- Can be completed as:
 - Physical scrapbook
 - Digital scrapbook
- Easily differentiated for:
 - Honors / AP classes
 - Group or independent work
- Encourages strong student engagement and ownership

STUDENT PACKAGE

World War II Scrapbook Project

Project Description

You will create a scrapbook that tells the story of a fictional person living through World War II. Your scrapbook should reflect how the war affected your character personally while remaining historically accurate.

You may work **alone or with one partner**.

Your scrapbook should feel like a personal historical record from the 1940s and include **writing, images, artifacts, and reflections**.

REQUIRED COMPONENTS

You must include **ALL** of the following five items:

1. Character Introduction

- Photo or drawing of your character
 - Journal entry introducing yourself
 - Character may be any gender, age, race, or background
 - Character must be connected to World War II
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2. Outbreak of War Reflection

- Letter or journal entry describing the outbreak of WWII
 - Must include **at least one real historical event**
 - Describe how your character feels about the war
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3. Historical Photographs

- At least **five authentic WWII photographs**
- Each must include a caption or explanation

4. Letters or Journal Entries

- At least **five personal letters or journal entries**
 - Based on historical facts
 - If working with a partner:
 - Letters must go between **home front and battle front**
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5. Artifacts with Explanations

- At least **five artifacts**, such as:
 - Weapons or equipment
 - Draft notices
 - Posters or propaganda
 - Medals, badges, uniforms
 - Currency, tools, vehicles
 - Each artifact must include an explanation of its significance
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OPTIONAL COMPONENTS

Choose **at least five** of the following to complete your scrapbook:

6. World leader profile
7. Popular culture example (song, ad, poster, film)
8. Battle map with explanation
9. WWII armaments and impact
10. Allied vs. Axis world map
11. Art from the period
12. WWII book reflection
13. End-of-war reflection
14. WWII timeline
15. Historical news clipping
16. Historical documents (speeches, laws, posters)

STUDENT CHECKLIST

- I created a fictional WWII character
- I included a character introduction
- I wrote about the outbreak of war
- I included at least 5 historical photographs
- I wrote at least 5 letters or journal entries
- I included at least 5 artifacts with explanations
- I completed at least 5 additional optional components
- All information is historically accurate
- My scrapbook is organized and clearly labeled
- Sources and images are cited

SUBMISSION FORMAT

- Scrapbooks may be **physical or digital**
- Digital scrapbooks must be clearly organized and readable
- Creativity is encouraged, but historical accuracy is required