

The National WWII Museum
Iwo Jima *Virtual Field Trip* videoconference

TEACHER GUIDE

Before your Virtual Field Trip

1. To better prepare your students for their National WWII Museum virtual field trip, please share with them the enclosed Iwo Jima Fact Sheet, Word Search, and Vocabulary List.
2. Download and/or print out the files titled **Pacific Artifact Download**, **Pacific Maps Download**, and **Pacific Documents Download** (they do not have to be printed in color, but they look better that way).
3. Divide your class into four equal-sized groups.
4. Be prepared to distribute copies of the downloaded hand-outs. Each group will get a copy of the Pacific Artifact and the Pacific Maps. The Pacific Documents are numbered into 4 groups. Each of the four groups will get a different set of documents. Also print out four copies of the death notification telegram (but do not pass out until instructed).
5. You must make a **Test Call** to The National WWII Museum at least one day before your Virtual Field Trip. E-mail virtualclassroom@nationalww2museum.org to arrange your test call.

On the day of your Virtual Field Trip

1. With your students divided into four groups, dial The National WWII Museum's IP address: **72.158.213.42**
2. If there is a loss of connection during the video-conference, hang up and try to re-dial. The telephone number in the Museum's distance learning studio is 504-527-6012, x 351.
3. The Museum educator will greet your students and conduct the session. Students will be asked to participate by raising their hands. You may be asked to select students to answer certain questions or perform certain activities. You will be called upon to distribute hand-outs at the appropriate time. You are required to remain in the room during the entire video-conference.

After your Virtual Field Trip

1. A list of post-visit activities is attached.
2. The Museum will email you a simple evaluation form for you to fill out and return.

Program funds provided by



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FOUNDATION

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LEARNING OUTCOMES

The National WWII Museum in New Orleans has created this Virtual Field Trip videoconference to introduce students to the history and lessons of World War II in the Pacific. By participating in this Virtual Field Trip, students will:

- **Learn the following vocabulary:**
 - Island Hopping
 - D-Day
 - Amphibious
 - Landing craft
 - Allies
 - Axis
 - Andrew Higgins
 - Valor
 - Medal of Honor
 - Atomic bomb
- **Gain familiarity with the following geographic locations:**
 - Pacific Ocean
 - Hawaii and Pearl Harbor
 - Japan
 - Guadalcanal
 - Okinawa
 - Iwo Jima
 - New Orleans
- **Explore WWII artifacts, gaining insight into history through object-based inquiry**
- **Read primary documents related to the war in the Pacific and:**
 - Determine whether a document is a primary or secondary source
 - Analyze the contents of documents
 - Compare and contrast different type of documents
 - Evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of different type of documents for historical research
 - Discuss and determine ways of further analyzing documents
- **Gain an appreciation through historical example for the value of courage**
- **Gain a knowledge of several career opportunities related to the study of history, including:**
 - Museum curator
 - Museum educator
 - Historical researcher

The Battle for Iwo Jima

"Uncommon Valor"

Location: 660 miles south of Tokyo

Size: 2 miles wide and 4 miles long (8 square miles)

The Battle:

U.S. Marines invaded the island on February 19, 1945 after months of naval and air bombardment. The Japanese defenders of the island were dug into bunkers deep within the volcanic rocks. Approximately 70,000 US troops and 22,000 Japanese troops took part in the battle. In almost a month of fighting, more than 20,000 Japanese soldiers and more than 6,000 U.S. Marines were killed. More than 20,000 Marines were wounded on Iwo Jima. This battle was the bloodiest in Marine Corps history. The battle lasted until March 16, 1945.

After the battle, Iwo Jima served as an emergency landing site for over 2,200 B-29 bombers, saving the lives of more than 24,000 U.S. crewmen.



Securing Iwo Jima prepared the way for the last major battle in the Pacific: the invasion of Okinawa.

The Flag Raising:



The flag-raising atop Mt. Suribachi took place on February 23, 1945; five days after the battle began. Associated Press photographer Joe Rosenthal took the famous photograph of six Marines raising the flag. The flag raisers were Cpl. Harlon Block, Navy Pharmacist's Mate John Bradley, Cpl. Rene Gagnon, PFC Franklin Sousley, Sgt. Michael Strank, and Cpl. Ira Hayes. Three of these men were killed before the battle for Iwo Jima was over.

The photograph was quickly wired around the world and reproduced in newspapers across the United States. The image was used as a model for the Marine Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery.

Awards:

Twenty-seven Medals of Honor (our country's highest military award for bravery) were awarded for actions on Iwo Jima—more than any other battle in U.S. history.

***"Among the men who fought on Iwo Jima,
uncommon valor was a common virtue"***

—Admiral Chester W. Nimitz

World War II in the Pacific

R P Z S K O M C H R C X I D A
 O S M O A E R Z Z K P W I I S
 B P V H M D W E A A O R R H U
 R H O X I X J L Z J U C B X B
 A I Z B K G V H I O R B E Z M
 H L V M A F K M S A G M R W A
 L I R B Z T A S F O C M P V R
 R P S R E G I T G N I Y L F I
 A P D I R M C Y A W D I M C N
 E I W L S A Y A M A M O T O E
 P N I S R B M O B C I M O T A
 I E U R G U A D A L C A N A L
 F S I P L C O D E T A L K E R
 I E R U H T R A C A M G W X P
 R X Q M K B U T Z O Y S B T H

Aircraft Carrier
 Atomic Bomb
 Code Talker
 Flying Tigers
 Guadalcanal

Iwo Jima
 Kamikaze
 MacArthur
 Midway
 Pearl Harbor

Philippines
 Submarine
 USS Missouri
 Yamamoto
 Zero

World War II in the Pacific

Aircraft Carrier: naval warship with a flight deck, which allows aircraft to take off and land in the middle of the ocean

Atom Bomb: nuclear weapon used by the United States to end the war with Japan. The first bomb destroyed the city of Hiroshima; the second bomb destroyed the city of Nagasaki

Code Talker: a specially-trained Native American of the Navajo tribe whose language was used as a US military code to send and receive important military information

Flying Tigers: otherwise known as the AVG (American Volunteer Group), these pilots flew combat missions in the China-Burma-India theater of war

Guadalcanal: part of the Solomon Island chain in the South Pacific, this island was the site of the first US three-dimensional military campaign (combination of sea, land and air forces as never seen before) that helped prevent Japanese forces from spreading even further south

Iwo Jima: a small but important Pacific island located 660 miles south of Tokyo. It was the site for one of the fiercest battles of the Pacific

Kamikaze: a Japanese pilot in World War II assigned to make a suicidal crash on a target

Douglas MacArthur: American general responsible for American forces in the Southwest Pacific

Midway: the battle at Midway Island is considered to be the turning point of the war in the Pacific. American naval and air forces successfully prevented the Japanese from advancing by destroying a large part of their Pacific fleet

Pearl Harbor: on December 7, 1941, a Japanese air fleet made a surprise attack on the American naval base at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. On December 8, the United States declared war on Japan

Philippines: A large group of islands in the western Pacific that the Japanese invaded and occupied. This was the location of the Bataan Death March; the Battle of the Philippine Sea was Japan's last, unsuccessful effort to regain its naval strength

Submarine: a naval vessel that can travel stealthfully under the water; an important weapon for both the Americans and the Japanese during WWII

USS Missouri: on the decks of this battleship the Japanese surrendered and WWII officially ended, on September 2, 1945

Yamamoto: Japanese admiral and commander of the Japanese fleet, he planned the surprise attacks on Pearl Harbor and Midway

Zero: a highly effective Japanese fighter plane

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POST-VIDEO-CONFERENCE ACTIVITIES

To re-enforce the lessons learned during your Virtual Field Trip, do one or more of the following activities with your class:

1. Invite a local WWII veteran to address your class. Have students research his participation in the war and prepare questions ahead of time.
2. Have students conduct research and prepare reports one of the following Pacific War topics:
 - Japanese society and the Emperor
 - Pearl Harbor
 - The Bataan Death March
 - African Americans in the Pacific
 - Navajo Code Talkers
 - Aircraft carriers in the Pacific
 - Submarines in the Pacific
 - Women/nurses in the Pacific
 - The Manhattan Project
 - The decision to drop the atomic bombs
 - The campaign for Guadalcanal, Bougainville, Saipan, Okinawa, Kiska and Attu, Tarawa, or Peleliu
3. Using a large roll of paper, create an illustrated timeline of the war in the Pacific from the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor to the Japanese surrender in 1945. Students can produce their own drawings or print out appropriate images from the Internet.
4. Twenty-seven Medals of Honor (our country's highest military award for bravery) were awarded for actions on Iwo Jima—more than any other battle in U.S. history. Research MOH recipients at <http://www.army.mil/cmh-pg/Moh1.htm> and hold a class discussion about students' ideas of bravery and sacrifice. Have they ever been the recipients of bravery and/or sacrifice in their lives? Have they ever shown bravery and/or sacrifice? How can students become agents of bravery and sacrifice?