ILLINOIS HOLOCAUST MUSEUM & EDUCATION CENTER

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

THE HARVEY L. MILLER FAMILY YOUTH EXHIBITION

Be an Upstander (5th- 6th Grade)

Recommended Pathway: Focus on an Age Appropriate Introduction to the Holocaust (35-40 min.)

Illinois Holocaust Museum & Education Center partnered with the Archdiocese of Chicago Office of Catholic Schools to create this publication, providing resources and suggested activities for educators to align their teaching of the Holocaust to the Archdiocese of Chicago Religion Curriculum Priority Standards for Grades PK-8 (2020). We encourage educators to explore these suggested activities to incorporate into their interdisciplinary instruction—using all of them or only a few, and implementing them as-written or with modifications to meet students' specific needs. Through these lessons and activities, students will gain a deeper understanding of the human dimension of the Holocaust, while exploring topics through the lens of Catholic faith, tradition, and values.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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ABOUT THE MUSEUM

Likely the last international institution of its kind built with the active participation of Holocaust Survivors, Illinois Holocaust Museum & Education Center is the largest facility in the Midwest (and the third largest in the world) dedicated to preserving the memories of those lost in the Holocaust and to teaching current generations to fight hatred, prejudice, indifference, and genocide in today's world.

Through world-class exhibitions and programs, the Museum inspires individuals and organizations and provides a universal wake-up call to action: Take history to heart. Take a stand for humanity.

GENERAL ACTIVITIES

ACTIVITY #1: What's in Your Suitcase: An Introduction to the Holocaust

Consider designing a web quest for students to explore the activities of the following organizations:

- Archdiocese of Chicago Immigration Ministry: Click on "Pastoral Migratoria." Read and discuss the work of this ministry of the Archdiocese. Consider making use of the case scenarios, discussion questions, and prayer prompts in the formation booklet resources.
- USCCB Justice for Immigrants: Click on the PDF at the top of the page to read about Justice for Immigrants. Click on the "Areas of Focus" tab at the top of the page and read about the work of JFI in each area. Click on the "Faces of Migration" tab and invite students to read a chosen story about someone who has migrated to the U.S. Discuss ways in which the Gospel calls Christians to act as upstanders on behalf of those who are new to our communities.
- Jesuit Refugee Service: Click on "About Us" and read the history and values of JRS. Click on "Our Work" and learn about what JRS does in communities around the world. Click on "Take Action" and invite students to choose a prayer to incorporate into the classroom experience of daily prayer and reflection.

Religion Curriculum Standards: 5.01.C, 5.02.C, 5.03.A, 5.03.C, 5.06.C, 6.02.A, 6.02.C, 6.04.C, 6.05.A, 6.06.A

ACTIVITY #2: Choices: Chiune Sugihara

Invite students to read and discuss the seven Themes of Catholic Social Teaching. Draw students' attention to the sixth theme: Solidarity. Consider making use of the following resources from Catholic Relief Services to introduce students to the theme of Solidarity:

Video (4 min)
Prayer and Discussion Guide
Lesson Plan

Religion Curriculum Standards: 5.01.C, 5.04.B, 5.06.A, 5.05.B, 5.05.C, 5.06.C, 6.02.A, 6.02.C, 6.04.C, 6.05.A, 6.05.B, 6.06.A

ACTIVITY #3: Eyewitness to the Holocaust: Diet Eman

Invite students to visit the We Are Salt and Light website (USCCB). Scroll down the web page to find "Success Stories". Help students to navigate through the collection of "success stories" that illustrate how Catholic communities across the U.S. have invested in peace and justice efforts in various ways. Invite students to choose one theme to focus on during their inquiry of the success stories:

Anchoring Discipleship in Prayer and Worship
Forming Disciples through Preaching and Education
Living as Disciples in Family, Work and the Public Square
Being Neighbors, Locally and Globally
Responding with Charitable Works
Responding with Social Justice
Diversity and Racial Justice
Leadership Development

Allow students an opportunity to share the success stories they chose with a partner or small group. Facilitate a conversation about topics of peace and justice that are of interest to the students. Help students to design a project that advocates for social justice in connection to their areas of interest. Assist students in writing a class "success story" that summarizes the project, student learnings, and goals for further outreach work.

Religion Curriculum Standards: 5.02.C, 5.04.B, 5.05.A, 5.05.B, 5.05.C, 5.06.A, 5.06.C, 6.02.A, 6.02.B, 6.02.C, 6.04.C, 6.05.A, 6.05.B, 6.05.C, 6.06.A

ACTIVITY #4: Who Am I? A Self-Portrait with Words

Introduce students to the Corporal Works of Mercy. Invite students to review their self-portrait with words and reflect on the following questions in connection to the Corporal Works of Mercy:

- Which Corporal Work(s) of Mercy stands out as very important to you?

- How can you use the gifts and talents that you've named in your self-portrait to help others who are lacking basic needs?
- How can affirmation of your personal identity, gifts, and talents help you begin to discern your vocation? How might you be called to make a positive difference in the world?

Religion Curriculum Standards: 5.02.C, 5.05.A, 5.05.B, 5.05.C, 6.02.C, 6.05.A, 6.05.B, 6.05.C, 6.06.A

ACTIVITY #5: Upstander Oath: What Do You Pledge

Consider making use of this retreat resource as an optional tool for student faith formation around social justice and peacemaking.

Religion Curriculum Standards: 5.03.A, 5.03.B, 5.03.C, 5.05.C, 6.04.C, 6.05.A, 6.05.B, 6.05.C, 6.06.A

Per the age group identified for the "Be an Upstander" tour, activities included in this resource are aligned to the Archdiocese of Chicago Religion Curriculum Priority Standards for Grades 5-6.

Click HERE to view standards for all grade levels.