



Lesson 4: Remembering Manzanar

How Does My Identity Shape My Experience in America?

Activity 5: Daily Activities

How did Japanese Americans' identities shape their internment experiences?



Family at Bairs Creek in Manzanar, Dorothea Lange 1942.

Objective:

Students relate to routine activities of life in the internment camps.

Procedure:

- Ask students to take their journals home and keep a log of one day in their life. Have them document all activities with time. For example, record what time you woke up, time of your school classes, extra activities such as band, drama, sports practice, if you did laundry, babysat a sibling, etc. Here is an example:



- In class the following day ask students to review their recorded day. Ask the following questions for a classroom discussion:

*Does your log represent a regular day in your life?
 If someone read your daily log would they know that you live
 in America or could these same activities take place in another
 country? If so, how or why?*

Grade Level: 4th
Time: 1 day (journal activity)
 2 hours (classroom lesson)
Materials: Student journals
Remembering Manzanar DVD
Manzanar Desert Diamonds
Behind Barbed Wire DVD
 ID Booklets
 Newspaper articles

Concepts Covered:

- Follow directions** outside of class.
- Write** for detail.
- Summarize** information and proper note taking.

CDE Standards:

- 4th Grade**
English/Language Arts:
Writing
 2.1.a 2.1.b 2.1.c 2.1.d
History-Social Science
 4.4.3 4.4.5



Activity 5: **Daily Activities**

How did Japanese Americans' identities shape their internment experiences?



Block Dance at Manzanar, Francis Stewart 1943

Procedure (continued):

- ✓ Ask your students to journal answers to the following questions:
 - Have you ever been treated differently due to your identity?*
 - Have you ever treated someone else differently due to their identity?*
 - How can you ensure that everyone is treated fairly and respectfully?*
- ✓ Show the DVD, *MANZANAR: Desert Diamonds Behind Barbed Wire*, a 60-minute electronic field trip to Manzanar.
- ✓ Using the newspaper articles, the DVD *Remembering Manzanar*, the DVD *MANZANAR: Desert Diamonds Behind Barbed Wire*, ID booklets and your journal, find three similarities and three differences between your daily log activities and the activities of people in a war relocation center. How were the daily activities in Manzanar similar to activities in communities outside of the barbed wire fence? If people in Manzanar were conducting their lives as other Americans were, why were they treated differently?

Assessment:

1. Participation in group discussion.
2. Successful completion of log activity.
3. Successful completion of assignment.