




The Butterfly Project
 Lesson Plans Grades 7th - 9th
 Duration: Approximately 45 minutes

THEME	Holocaust and the Power of One
GOAL	Students will understand that terrible things can happen when people stand by and do nothing. The positive action of one person can change the outcome for many.
OBJECTIVES	Students will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Understand the nature and impact of prejudice and intolerance ● Accept differences and appreciate diversity ● Understand that our actions affect others and ourselves
MATERIALS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Butterfly Painting Kit/Painting instructions ● <u><i>Terrible Things</i></u> by Eve Bunting ● Writing Paper ● Chart Paper/White Board, if desired to record children's responses ● Biography Cards ● Proclamation
BUILDING PRIOR KNOWLEDGE PRE READING	<p>The Holocaust was a terrible event in history that began in Europe in 1933 and lasted until the end of WWII in 1945. The Holocaust was the systematic persecution and murder of more than 6 million Jews by Germany's Nazi's regime and its collaborators. Adolph Hitler and his Nazi party targeted other groups because they were different. They wanted everyone to be the same. They called in racially pure. Over 5 million others were persecuted among them the disabled, political dissidents, intellectuals, gypsies, homosexuals, Jehovah Witness's, Catholic and other religions that opposed Nazism. But only the Jews were singled out for total extermination.</p> <p>The Holocaust happened because one group of powerful people was intolerant of others that were different from them. Even</p>



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	<p>thought the Holocaust is an extreme example of hate, it is important to recognize that when you see someone being a bully they are displaying the same behaviors that started the Holocaust.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">PRE READING SUGGESTED QUESTIONS</p>	<p>Ask Students if they know times in history or at the school or camp where people were discriminated against or bullied. (Record responses on chart paper):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● What do you know about terrible things that have happened in your community and the world?
<p style="text-align: center;">DURING READING</p>	<p>Call students' attention to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● What animals were being taken away and for what reasons?
<p style="text-align: center;">AFTER READING</p>	<p>Ask Students the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● How does your knowledge about the Holocaust relate to what you just read in <i>Terrible Things</i>? ● How did the animals rationalize the selections made by the <i>Terrible Things</i>? ● Assume the voice of little rabbit and think about the advice you would give the other animals in the forest about the <i>Terrible Things</i>? ● What did each animal contribute to the forest community? What do you hope to contribute to your community?
<p style="text-align: center;">PAINTING BUTTERFLIES</p>	<p>Give Students the ceramic butterflies from the kit to paint. Students will be painting butterflies in memory of the 1.5 million Jewish and non-Jewish children that perished in the Holocaust. Students will receive a biography card that should be read silently prior to painting (this card can be taken home to discuss <i>The Butterfly Project</i> with their families). In addition, point out to the Students that they are painting a butterfly in honor of a child who did not have an Upstander when faced with their own "Terrible Things". These children did not have freedom or an Upstander for protection. Encourage them to make their butterfly. When they are finished, point out the beauty and uniqueness of each one.</p>



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<p>SIGN THE PROCLAMATION</p>	<p>Have Students discuss the importance of a promise and have them sign the <i>The Butterfly Project Proclamation</i> included with the kit.</p> <p>As a Proud Member of <i>The Butterfly Project</i>, I pledge to remember the past, act responsible in the present, and create a more peaceful future.</p> <p>By standing up for others, I know that I make a difference. Every butterfly painted memorialized a child that was lost in the Holocaust and a voice that was gained.</p>
<p>ADDITIONAL RESOURCES</p>	<p>Web links:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>The Butterfly Project</i> - thebutterflyprojectnow.org ● Simon Wiesenthal Center -www.teachers.museumoftolerance.com ● United States Holocaust Memorial Museum - www.ushmm.org/education/foreducators/ ● Free materials for Educators - www.teachingtolerance.org