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Literature Made Fun!



***Anne Frank: The Diary
of a Young Girl***
BY ANNE FRANK



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All references come from the Bantam Book edition of *Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl*, published 1993.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Pre-Reading**Historical Setting****Objective:** Understanding the historical setting**Activity**

Anne Frank lived in Amsterdam, the Netherlands, and kept her diary from 1942 until 1944. World War II significantly impacted Anne's experiences and is important to understanding her story. Based on what you have learned in history classes, textbooks or encyclopedias, answer the following questions about World War II.

1. Name some of the events that preceded World War II in Europe.

2. When did the war begin?

3. What countries primarily constituted the Axis Powers and the Allies?

4. What is a pogrom? Where were pogroms initiated against Jewish people preceding and during World War II?

5. What was the Nazi plan known as "The Final Solution"? How was it implemented?

Name: _____

Date: _____

Saturday, 20 June, 1942

Theme

- Objectives:** Understanding discrimination and conflicts between groups
Relating historical events to current events
Developing public speaking skills
Comparing contemporary events to historical events
Developing social awareness and conscience

Activity I

In one of her first diary entries, Anne Frank describes the oppressive anti-Jewish decrees that she and other Jews must obey in Holland:

“Jews must wear a yellow star, Jews must hand in their bicycles, Jews are banned from trams and are forbidden to drive... Jews may not visit Christians. Jews must go to Jewish schools, and many more restrictions of a similar kind.”

In your groups, answer the following questions:

1. Compare the discrimination against Jewish people by the Nazis during Anne Frank's life to the discrimination that African-Americans suffered in the United States during the same time period (1930 – 1950). What are the similarities and differences between the situations?

2. Currently in America, are certain groups discriminated against? Which ones and in what ways does that discrimination take place? How is the treatment the group receives similar or different to the treatment of the Jewish during World War II?

Name: _____

Date: _____

Saturday, 11 July, 1942**Imagery**

Objectives: Relating literature to life
Visualizing Imagery

Activity I

“Our little room looked very bare at first with nothing on the walls; but thanks to Daddy who had brought my film-star collection and picture-postcards on beforehand, and with the aid of paste pot and brush, I have transformed the walls into one gigantic picture.”

Imagine you are confined to a small hiding space like Anne and her family. Create a collage with pictures that you would use to brighten your new home. Remember that you would have few other decorations, you might have to look at the collage for a long time, and you would like the others in hiding with you to enjoy it.

Activity II

Anne and her companions lived constantly with the fear of being discovered. Anne writes:

“I can't tell you how oppressive it is *never* to be able to go out of doors, also I'm very afraid that we shall be discovered and be shot.”

Draw, use magazines, or find pictures on the Internet to create a visual representation of the fear and anxiety the inhabitants of the “Secret Annexe” feel.

Activity III

Using Anne's detailed description of the “Secret Annexe,” create a diorama, or miniature representation, of the hiding place. Use a shoebox as a base.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Friday, 20 November, 1942**Characterization**

Objectives: Recognizing changes in character
Drawing comparisons

Activity

“And at long last I have made the discovery that Daddy, although he’s such a darling, still cannot take the place of my entire little world of bygone days.”

Compare Anne’s life before going into hiding with her life after entering the “Secret Annexe.” Use the **Comparison Worksheet** to assist you. How did she spend her time before, and how does she spend it now? Has her personality changed? Are her feelings different? Make a list of the differences, and support your observations with quotes from the text.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Wednesday, 4 August, 1943 – Monday, 23 August, 1943**Writing**

Objectives: Developing descriptive writing skills
Relating literature to life

Activity

In the course of a number of journal entries, Anne provides detailed descriptions of a typical day at the “Secret Annexe.” Write a two-page description of your typical daily routine, including times and details just like Anne does. On a third page, compare your routine with Anne’s, noting any similarities or differences.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Wrap-Up**Interviewing****Objective:** Interviewing a main character**Activity**

Imagine you could interview Anne Frank about her experiences in hiding and living in concentration camps.

You are the host of a TV news show known for giving important interviews with people who have survived extraordinary circumstances.

Before the interview, you must research Anne in order to know what types of questions you will be able to ask. You might want to ask her about the problems she experienced living in hiding, the conditions in the concentration camps, and her perspective on world politics.

Remember, you want to be sensitive to the issues involved and the trauma this young woman has experienced. You also want to produce an interview that your viewers will find compelling.

Each group will work together to produce a list of questions to ask Anne Frank. The first question has been written for you.

1. How did you maintain your hopes of survival while you were in hiding?
