

Recommended Approach to Teaching about the Holocaust (Best Practices)

This is a visual, sequential representation of the Best Practices for teaching the Holocaust in Washington, per SB5612

Step 1

Closely Consider the Guidelines for Teaching the Holocaust/Genocide

Step 2

- a) Establish Rationale/Proposed Outcomes, including Pyramid of Hate activity & Key Terms (2-3 classes)
- b) Create a Safe Learning Environment (classroom contracts -- see this and this, and this letter to families/Spanish)

Step 3

Establish Historical Context

(4-7 classes)

- a) Survivor Voices (film) + b) *Timeline activity + c) Prewar Jewish Life & Antisemitism
- or
- *Overview lessons or
 - *Path to Nazi Genocide (film & 2- or 4-day lesson options)

Step 4

ELA Path

OR

History/Social Studies Path

(See Holocaust Literature & Guides)

*Deep Dive and Overview lessons may complement themes

(Deeper Dive Lessons arranged by theme - Changing World, Resistance, Ghettos & Camps, etc.)-

*Consider speaker testimony and live virtual field trips to augment your lessons

Step 5

Culminating Activity (to allow students to reflect and connect their learning, applying lessons) (e.g., Writing, Art & Film Contest)