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ORAL REPORT ON MAJOR FIGURES

There were many important people that were involved in the Korean War. There were political leaders, soldiers, medics, doctors, nurses and many others. Each had their own important role to play.

The purpose of this activity is to investigate the life of one important person. Research a few different people first then choose one that interests you.

Here are a few major figures to help you but you may choose someone else if you like. Check with your teacher first.

- Harry Truman
- Joseph Stalin
- Syngman Rhee
- Kim Il-sung
- Douglas MacArthur
- Dean Acheson
- Walton Walker
- William F. Dean
- Mao Zedong
- Chiang Kai-Shek
- Peng Dehuai
- Matthew Ridgway
- Dwight Eisenhower

Use a chart or graphic organizer and look at things like:

Name : _____

Date of Birth : _____

Place of Birth : _____

Family Background : _____

Education : _____

Their Own Family : _____

Military Involvement (?) : _____

Death : _____

Interesting Facts : _____

Summarize your research into a short report you can give to the class.

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MASH UNITS

MASH stands for Mobile Army Surgical Hospitals. MASH units were specialized medical units that operated right up close to the front lines of combat. They were staffed by experienced medical personnel and their closeness to the front lines allowed troops to receive medical aid quicker and with greater success.

These MASH units were first established in 1945 but received their first true combat tests in the Korean War. They were highly successful.

MASH became a common household term in the 1970's. The popular TV show lasted from 1972 until 1983 and depicted a MASH unit in the Korean War.

In this activity you can watch an episode or two of MASH with your class.

Generate some class discussion about the show.

- Who were the main characters?
- What were their various jobs and responsibilities?
- What were the conditions like that they worked in?
- How were troops and medical casualties transported to the MASH units?
- Take careful note of the geography and terrain in the background.
- Do you feel that the MASH episodes are a realistic portrayal of what happened during the Korean War?

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ART PROJECT

The Korean War is also referred to as the Forgotten War. Let's help make this war remembered by doing an art project showing our respect to the veterans of the Korean War.

Write a small book showing the veterans of this war how you will remember it.

Draw a picture with a small caption at the bottom of each.

For example:

You could choose things such as the American Flag and the Korean Flag waving in the air together showing unity. Under the drawing you could say something about the uniting of both countries and why you will never "forget" this war.

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Diorama

A Diorama is a picture (or series of pictures) representing a continuous scene.

You can use this idea to create a 3-D map of Korea. Use different materials to create your map.

You may also need to research, in more detail, the geography of Korea. You will need to locate the lowlands, highlands, coastal plains, and mountains.

You could use materials like a piece of string to show the 38th parallel, salt for rough terrain, egg cartons for mountains, and blue paper showing different water systems and different rivers in Korea.

Don't forget to show the border between the North and South. You may also want to show the countries that share a border with Korea. Depending on how much detail you want to show you may want to research the terrain of the neighboring countries as well.

REMEMBER – BE CREATIVE!

There are lots of available materials to use in your project!

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Be a News Reporter

As a news reporter you are required to write a newspaper article during the Korean War.

The date is either July 5th 1950 or September 15th 1950. Research what was happening around these dates.

Keep in mind that as a reporter you are required to convey as much information as you can in a short amount of writing. You will need to choose what you are going to write about and from what perspective.

Maybe you will choose to write it as a general overview of the day. You could also choose to write the article as a reporter tailing a soldier. You could give an account as to what the soldier has done that day or what things have gone on around him.

Maybe you would rather choose to follow a medic and report on what they are doing during that time period.

Choose carefully and then draft your article.

Once you have your major points written, begin writing your article. Remember to write it short but also keep in mind that you want to inform the reader.

Other things to consider might be where the reporter is from. Are they American or are they writing the article in China or Russia? A different perspective other than an American one could be a great idea!

Explore your writing ideas!

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WEB NAVIGATION

The purpose of this activity is to give the students a chance to practice navigating around websites while learning more about the Korean War.

Answer the following questions by using the information found on the Internet. Students may have to visit multiple websites and be able to determine credible information. Be sure to answer the questions using full sentences!

1. What significant event occurred on April 8th, 1948? What was North Korean troop strength on June 1st, 1950?
2. Infantry weapons were very important to the ground troops in Korea. Look up Infantry Weapons. What was the weight of the M-1 Garand Rifle unloaded? What was the effective range of the M-1 Garand?
3. Raymond G. Davis was awarded the Medal of Honor in December of 1950. What was his military rank at the time? What was his date of birth? Where was he born?
4. Corporal Claude L. Johnson from Millard, Utah was killed in action (KIA) during the Korean War. What was the date of his death?
5. Assault from the Sea is a series of paintings about the Inchon landing and Invasion. Who is the artist and author of the work?
6. Bud Farrell was a B-29 gunner during the Korean War. He was part of the 93rd Bomb Squadron. What was the insignia picture on their squadron patch?
7. The M-26 Pershing tank was one of the many fighting vehicles used in the war. What was the maximum speed of this tank? What was the size of the main gun?