

Teacher Lesson Summary

Lesson plan title: Postcards to Sarajevo

Your name/name of your school: Lisa Sterling, Southeast Guilford High School

City/country: Greensboro, NC

Primary subject of lesson (History, English, etc): Art

Grade level of students: high school

Total required time to teach lesson (e.g., “two fifty minute lessons”): Two lessons, 50 minutes each

Goal(s) of lesson:

Students will:

- Learn about tolerance and making the right choice by watching Centropa’s film *Survival in Sarajevo*, and viewing their traveling exhibition with the same story, which we brought to our school.
- Explore 20th century letters and postcards and what it was like to have to wait to hear from loved ones, especially in crisis situations, before email and social media.
- Express an idea through images, symbols, words by creating a postcard and writing a message.

Brief summary of your lesson:

We began this lesson by watching Centropa’s film, [Survival in Sarajevo](#), and walking through [the traveling exhibition of the same name](#), which we brought to our school. Each class discussed the story and hardships the people in Sarajevo faced, the choices they made to support no matter what each person’s ethnic background was, and the courage it took to do that during an ethnic war. We discussed what life may have been like for people during the siege of Sarajevo to wait for letters from the outside (and for their loved ones outside of Bosnia to wait for news from them), and how different that is from the immediacy of email and social media. Students then created their own postcards, using images and symbols representing themes from the film to decorate one side, and writing a message on the other. The postcards were hung over the Survival in Sarajevo exhibition, viewed by all students in the school.

Centropa and other sources used:

Centropa film, [Survival in Sarajevo](#)

Centropa traveling exhibition, [Survival in Sarajevo](#)

Postcards and art materials