

Centropa lesson

Centropa film: The Years Make Their Own

Teacher: Liljana Stefanovska

School: Naum Naumovski Borche Primary School – Skopje, Macedonia

Overview information

Type of school: Public school

Subjects taught: Civic Education

Grade level of students: 9th (aged 14-15)

Total duration: Two 40 minute lessons

Background lesson information

This lesson is intended for students in the final year of primary education (aged 14-15)
The content of this lesson is part of the civic education curriculum, topic – International Human Rights research.

Lesson Aims/Objectives

- Define the term *war crime*
- Understand what *Holocaust* means
- Learn about the Holocaust of the Macedonian Jews
- Learn about the consequences of the Holocaust in the world and in Macedonia
- Learn about the Holocaust as violation of the International Human Rights regulations

Universal lesson aims/objectives

- Increase students' awareness for empathy
- Increase students' awareness for righteousness, humanity and morality

- Increase students' critical attitude towards anti-Semitism, nationalism and other forms of discrimination
- Increase students' critical attitudes towards war crimes
- Condemn the Holocaust as one of the most horrible events in the history of mankind

Resources

- **Centropa webpage** – www.centropa.org
- Link for the **Centropa** film – http://www.centropa.org/centropa-cinema/beno-and-roza-kamhi-years-make-their-own?subtitle_language=
- The Internet
- Printed material
- Civic education 9th grade text book (pages 56-57)
- Computer, LCD projector, screen, speakers

Lesson one

Introduction (5-7 minutes)

Activity one: The teacher introduces the topic - War crimes and the Holocaust of the Macedonian Jews.

Activity two: The teacher introduces Centropa film – The Years Make Their Own

Activity three: Students are given a task while watching the film – identify violation of International Human Rights regulations and war crimes in the film (pair work activity)

Main part (25 minutes)

Activity one: The students watch Centropa film *The years Make Their Own*

Activity two: The teacher writes the term *war crime* on the board. The students read part of the Statute of the International Criminal Court (from their text books) and identify the regulations of the International Human Rights which were violated in the Holocaust of the Macedonian Jews

Activity three: Each pair gives a word which reflects a violation of the International Human Rights regulations. The words are written on the board. Expected answers: murder, torture, deportations, suffering, starvation, rape, etc.

Conclusion (5- 7 minutes)

Activity one: Discussion with the students regarding the words they gave as examples of violation of the International Human Right regulations related to the film.

Activity two: Homework. Students are split in 5 groups. Using Centropa film *The Years Make Their Own*, Centropa web site and the Internet each group does research and makes a PP presentation on the following topics:

Group 1: Jews in the Balkans (when and how they came)

Group 2: Life of Macedonian Jews before WW II

Group 3: Life of Macedonian Jews during WWII

Group 4: The Holocaust of the Macedonian Jews

Group 5: Jews in Macedonia after WWII

Lesson two

Introduction (10 minutes)

Activity one: Discussion with the students as a class about the resources that they used in their research and the main points of their PP presentations.

Main Part (20 minutes)

Activity one: A representative from each group presents the homework task – the PP presentation. The presentations are made in a time line manner so that the students get an overall picture of the history of the Macedonian Jews and the Holocaust in these regions.

Activity two: Using a check list the teacher evaluates students' research work and their PP presentations.

Conclusion (10 minutes)

Activity one: Discussion with the students – the research and what I have learnt about history of Macedonian Jews and the Holocaust

Activity two: Discussion with the students – the research and what I have learnt about the Holocaust, war crimes and the violation of the International Human Rights violation

Note: An example of the students' group homework Power Point Presentation is uploaded on the border jumping part of the Centropa web site.