Teacher Overview Objectives:
WWII Warfare

NYS Social Studies Framework Alignment:

Key Idea	Conceptual Understanding	Content Specification	Objectives
10.5 UNRESOLVED GLOBAL CONFLICT (1914–1945): World War I and World War II led to geopolitical changes, human and environmental devastation, and attempts to bring stability and peace. (Standards: 2, 3, 4, 5; Themes: TCC, GEO, GOV, CIV, TECH, EXCH)	10.5b Technological developments increased the extent of damage and casualties in both World War I and World War II.	Students will compare and contrast the technologies utilized in both World War I and World War II, noting the human and environmental devastation.	1. Describe the characteristics of WWII warfare and explain the effects of those characteristics on those involved. 2. Identify one cause of the end of WWII.

What was war like in WWII? How did it affect those involved?

Objectives: Describe the characteristics of WWII warfare and explain the effects of these characteristics on those involved.

Causes

Directions: Write down the five causes of WWII.

1 _____   2 _____

3 _____   4 _____

5 _____

Casualties

60-85 million civilian and military deaths
including lives lost to war-related disease and famine

Dead Soviet soldiers, January 1942. Officially, roughly 8.7 million Soviet soldiers died in the course of the war.
Source:
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World_War_II_casualties#/media/File:Bundesarchiv_Bild_101I-004-3633-32A,_Russland,_Cholm,_gefallene_Rotarmisten.jpg

Alliances

Allies	Axis
U.S.	**Germany**
Britain	**Italy**
France	**Japan**
USSR* (left the Axis in 1941)	
and	and
Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China, Denmark, Greece, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, South Africa, Yugoslavia	Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria

VS.

Setting the Stage

Like World War I, World War II was a total war. A **total war** is a military conflict in which nations mobilize all available resources in order to destroy another nation's ability to engage in the war. When one side of a conflict participates in total war, they dedicate not only their military to victory, but the civilian population still at home to working for victory as well. As a result, the country becomes very nationalistic. Feelings of pride are interwoven with sacrifice, and the nation's victory or loss becomes a part of the national identity.

In World War II, technology played a major role. Following World War I, many countries learned from their past mistakes and began to develop new technology during the interwar period of the 1920s and 1930s. New technology improved the speed and impact of existing weapons and improved intelligence collection. By the 1930s, armies had jet aircrafts, ballistic missiles and atomic weapons. The new technology determined the victors of World War II and played an important role in future conflicts.

World War II Reference Timeline

Directions: Examine the timeline below. Respond to the questions.

1939	World War II Starts: Hitler invades Poland on 1 September. Britain and France declare war on Germany.
1940	• German 'Blitzkrieg' overwhelms Belgium, Holland and France. • British victory in Battle of Britain forces Hitler to postpone invasion plans.
1941	• Hitler breaks the Nazi-Soviet Pact and invades Russia. He wants the country's raw materials and the end of Communism in Europe. USSR joins the Allies. • Hitler's Blitz continues against Britain's major cities. • Japan attacks Pearl Harbor, and the US enters the war.
1942	• Germany suffers setbacks at Stalingrad due to harsh Soviet climate. • Mass murder of Jewish people at Auschwitz begins.
1943	• Surrender at Stalingrad marks Germany's first major defeat. • Italy surrenders, but Germany takes over the battle.
1944	• Soviet offensive gains momentum in Eastern Europe. • D Day: The Allied invasion of France. Paris is liberated from German control in August.
1945	• Auschwitz liberated by Soviet troops. • Russians reach Berlin: Hitler commits suicide and Germany surrenders on 7 May. • After atomic bombs are dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan surrenders on 14 August.
1945	World War II Ends: On 15 August 1945, Japan surrendered and on 2 September 1945, the war ended.

What event started World War II?	Why the Soviets switched from the Axis to the Allies in 1941?	Why did the United States join World War II in 1941?	When did the mass murder of Jews at Auschwitz begin?
Why was D Day an important event in World War II history?	What event occurred before Germany's surrender in 1945?	Why did Japan surrender in August 1945?	What event ended World War II?

Aircraft

Aircraft technology was important in World War II. After World War I, countries were drawn to the the concept of massed aerial bombing because they wanted an alternative to trench warfare. Throughout the war, improvements were made to increase speed and altitude limits for aircraft.

British Aircraft
Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_aircraft_of_the_United_Kingdom_in_World_War_II#/media/File:Supermarinespitfire.JPG

Why did countries begin to invest in aircraft technology after World War I?

A German Focke-Wulf
Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Focke-Wulf_Fw_190#/media/File:Fw_190A-3_JG_2_in_Britain_1942.jpg

Military Vehicles: Tanks

World War I created a demand for armored weapons which could navigate any kind of terrain, and this led to the development of the tank. By World War II, tank design advanced significantly. Due to the increased need for troop mobility in WWII, tanks became faster and were strapped with even more firepower.

▶ **Watch [The History Channel: World War II Tanks](#) and respond to the questions below.**

1. Why were tanks important on the battlefield?

2. Why did the United States increase its production of tanks after the German blitzkreig?

Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tanks_in_World_War_II#/media/File:Marcia_nel_fango.jpg

USSR Tanks

Combined arms in action: US M4 Sherman, equipped with a 75 mm main gun, with infantry walking alongside.

Early war production in Germany
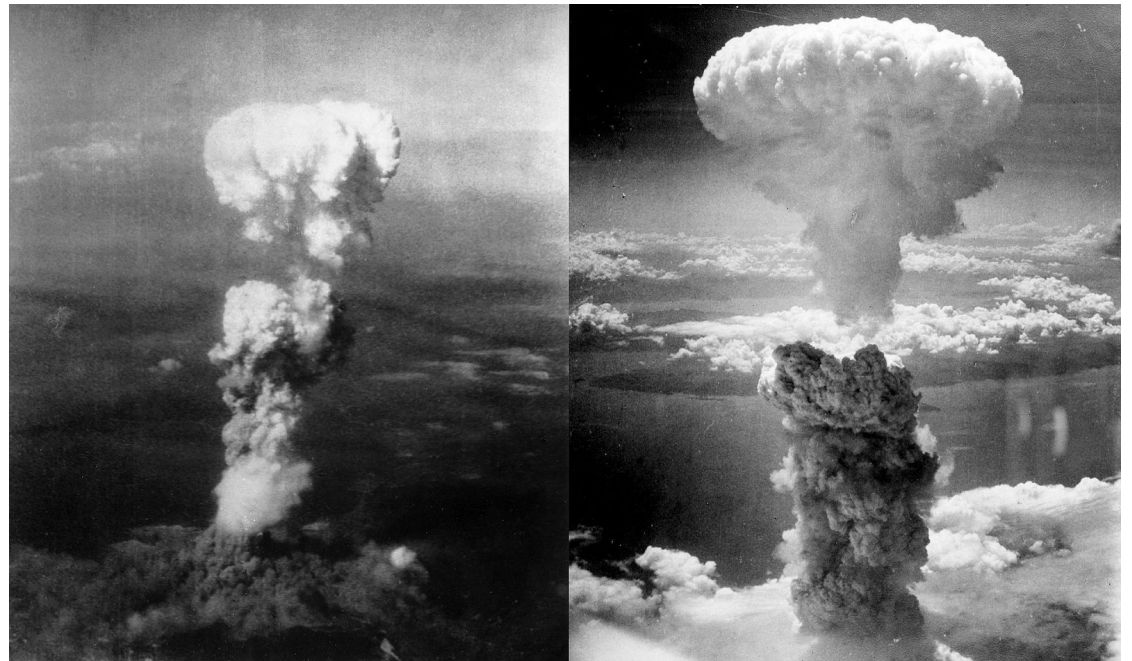
The Atomic Bomb: Hiroshima and Nagasaki

On the morning of August 6, 1945, the United States Army Air Forces dropped the nuclear weapon "Little Boy" on the city of Hiroshima, Japan. The explosion wiped out 90 percent of the city and immediately killed 80,000 people; tens of thousands more would later die of radiation exposure. Three days later, the "Fat Man" bomb was detonated over Nagasaki, killing 40,000 people.

> **Bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki**
> Vist: http://www.history.com/topics/world-war-ii/bombing-of-hiroshima-and-nagasaki and respond to the questions below.

1. Why did the United States drop atomic bombs on the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945?

2. What was the Manhattan project? How did this project improve American military technology?

At the time this photo was made, smoke billowed 20,000 feet above Hiroshima while smoke from the burst of the first atomic bomb had spread over 10,000 feet on the target at the base of the rising column
Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Atomic_bombings_of_Hiroshima_and_Nagasaki#/media/File:Atomic_bombing_of_Japan.jpg

▶ Watch **The History Channel: Atomic Bomb** and respond to the question below.

1. What were the impacts of the atomic bomb?

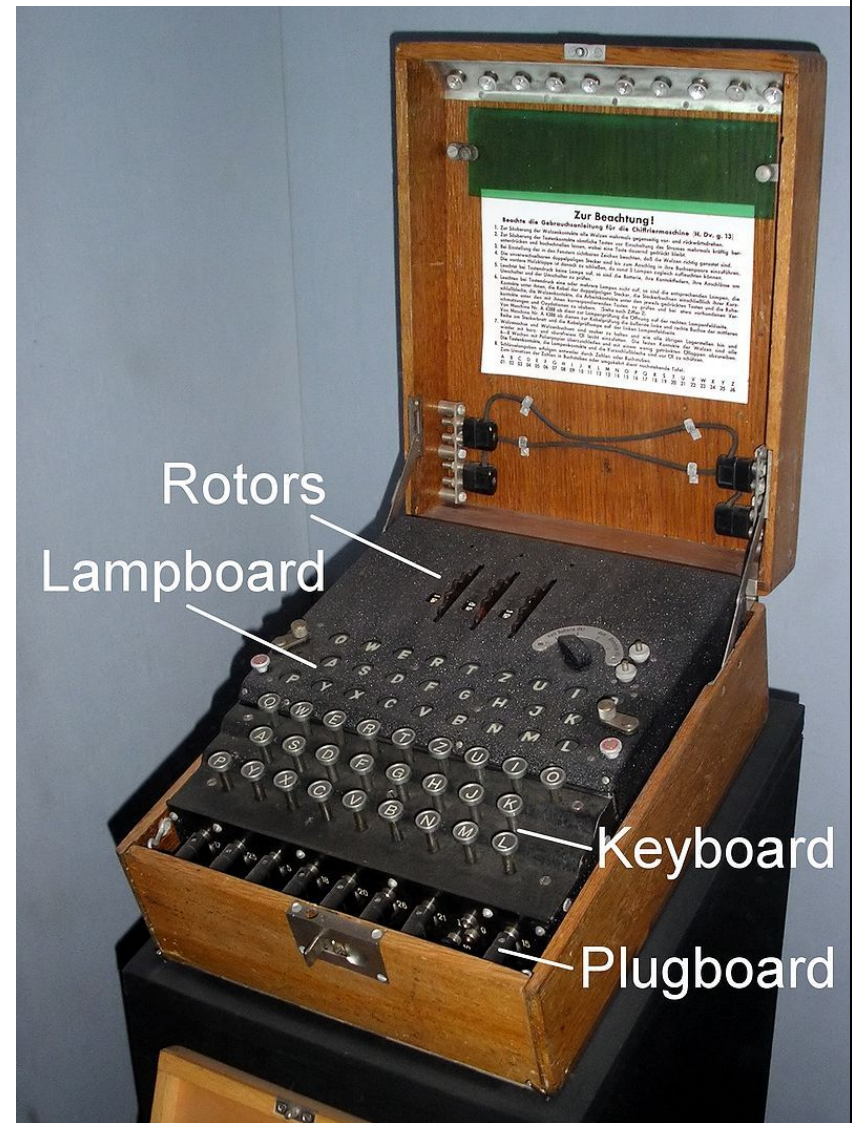## Electronics and Communication: The Enigma Machine

Equipment designed for communication and the interception of communication became critical during World War II. The Allied and Axis nations relied on different forms of communication technology to send encrypted messages and break into their enemy's messages.

Breaking the Code
Vist: http://www.computerhistory.org/revolution/birth-of-the-computer/4/82 and respond to the questions below.

1. How did Nazi troops use encoded communication during World War II?

2. How did Allied forces try to break these codes?

Enigma Machine
Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Enigma_machine#/media/File:EnigmaMachineLabeled.jpg

✓ Regents Multiple Choice Check for Understanding

1. During World War II, the Allied invasion of France on D-Day (June 6, 1944) was significant because it (1) demonstrated the power of the atomic bomb (2) resulted in a successful German revolt against Hitler and the Nazi Party (3) led to the immediate surrender of German and Italian forces (4) forced Germans to fight a two-front war	4. During World War II, which event occurred last? (1) German invasion of Poland (2) Russian defense of Stalingrad (3) United States bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki (4) Japanese invasion of Manchuria
2. Which headline is most closely associated with the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki? (1) "Japan Signs Treaty of Kanagawa" (2) "Nuclear Bombs Dropped on Japan" (3) "Japan Invades Korea" (4) "Japan Hosts Discussion on Greenhouse Gases"	5. Which conflict is most closely associated with events in Nanjing, Dunkirk, and Hiroshima? (1) Russian Revolution (2) Cultural Revolution (3) World War II (4) Korean War
3.Which geographic factor was most significant in helping the Soviet Union withstand German attacks in World War II? (1) The Ural Mountains served as a barrier to advancing German armies. (2) Distance and harsh winters disrupted German supply lines. (3) Extensive food-producing areas kept the Soviet armies well fed. (4) Numerous ports along the Arctic Sea allowed for the refueling of Soviet transport ships.	

Formative Assessment Task

World War I	World War II
Location: Worldwide, but mostly in Europe **Dates:** 1914-1918 **Deaths:** 20,000,000 Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_wars_by_death_toll	**Location:** Worldwide **Dates:** 1939-1945 **Deaths:** 60,000,000 - 85,000,000 Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_wars_by_death_toll

Directions: After examining all of the documents and the statistics above, complete the task below.

Task: Using information from the documents and your knowledge of global history, write a response in which you

> - Identify *two* reasons why there were more deaths in WWII than in WWI
> - Explain why/how these two reasons resulted in more deaths in WWII than in WWI