

## Journey to Okinawa: Lesson Plan

**Subject:** Social Studies

**Grade levels:** 9-12

**Length:** 1-2 (45 minute class periods)

**Description:** This lesson seeks to teach students about cross-cultural connections post-WWII between U.S. soldiers and Japanese civilians.

### **Academic Standards:**

U.S. History Standards:

8.3.12.A. Identify and evaluate the political and cultural contributions of individuals and groups to United States history from 1890 to Present.

8.3.12.B. Identify and evaluate primary documents, material artifacts and historic sites important in United States history from 1890 to Present.

8.3.12.C. Evaluate how continuity and change has influenced United States history from 1890 to Present.

8.3.12.D. Identify and evaluate conflict and cooperation among social groups and organizations in the United States history from 1890 to present.

World History Standards:

8.4.12.A. Evaluate the significance of individuals and groups who made major political and cultural contributions to world history since 1450.

8.4.12.B. Evaluate historical documents, material artifacts and historic sites important to world history since 1450.

8.4.12.C. Evaluate how continuity and change throughout history has impacted belief systems and religions, commerce and industry, innovations, settlement patterns, social organization, transportation and roles of women since 1450.

8.4.12.D. Evaluate how conflict and cooperation among social groups and organizations impacted world history from 1450 to Present in Africa, Asia, Americas and Europe.

### **Objectives:**

- The students will be able to define kimono
- The students will be able to explain key events of WWII in the Pacific.
- The students will be able to analyze cross cultural connections between Japan and the U.S. post-WWII.
- The students will create a kimono using the symbolism they learned from the online exhibit.

**Prerequisites:** Students should be familiar with WWII and the Pacific Theater of Operation.

**Opener/Warm-up:**

- Students will conduct a type-one writing activity:
  - Ask students to bullet point anything they know about Japan or Japanese culture
    - This will allow students to begin thinking about Japan
    - Ask students to share out their answers

**Lesson Activities:**

1. Students will read through the online exhibit “Journey to Okinawa”
  - a. While reading through the exhibit, students will complete the “Journey to Okinawa: Guided Questions” to ensure students understand the material of the lesson
2. Students will be given the “Design Your Own Kimono” Activity
  - a. Students will utilize what they have learned regarding Japanese Kimono Symbolism to create their own Kimono
    - i. On the back of the worksheet, students will explain their symbolism choices
3. Optional Extension Activity: Students will be research different cross cultural contributions between Japan and America
  - a. Students can then create a Google Slides presentation to share with the class

**Closing Activity:**

- Students will be asked to answer the question: In the years following the conclusion of the war, how did Japanese and Americans influence each other culturally?
  - This can be answered in the form of an exit ticket, jamboard, verbal response...etc.