

VFT: NATIONAL POW MUSEUM

USER GUIDE

OVERVIEW

The National Prisoner of War Museum virtual field trip provides students with an in-depth look at the experiences of American soldiers held as prisoners during times of conflict. Teachers could use this activity as a group experience, provide class time for students to explore the field trip at their own pace, or assign it as homework in a flipped classroom setting.

FEATURES

- **video footage** of interviews with a park guide who explains different elements of life as a prisoner of war
- **photos** of various museum artifacts, including clothing, letters, and art created by POWs
- **narrated 360° experiences** of the front entrance of the museum and the memorial courtyard
- **virtual walking tour** of the entire museum with embedded hotspots to learn more about the items on display

GEORGIA STANDARDS

- SS8H5** Analyze the impact of the Civil War on Georgia.
- Explain Georgia's role in the Civil War; include the Union blockade of Georgia's coast, the Emancipation Proclamation, Chickamauga, Sherman's Atlanta Campaign, Sherman's March to the Sea, and Andersonville.
- SSWH19** Demonstrate an understanding of the global political, economic, and social impact of World War II.
- Describe the major conflicts and outcomes, include: North African, Pacific, and European theatres.
- SSUSH21** Analyze U.S. international and domestic policies including their influences on technological advancements and social changes during the Kennedy and Johnson administrations.
- Describe the impact of television on American culture including the presidential debates (Kennedy/Nixon, 1960), news coverage of the Civil Rights Movement, the moon landing, and the war in Vietnam.

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VFT: NATIONAL POW MUSEUM**USER GUIDE****DISCUSS** 

1. Explain the purpose of holding prisoners of war.
2. What was the Geneva Convention and how did it impact the treatment of prisoners of war?
3. Describe the various ways POWs kept their minds and bodies occupied during their imprisonment.

EXTEND 

1. Imagine you are an American soldier who has been captured during combat. Write three journal entries sharing your experience as a prisoner of war. Be sure to explain about the war you are fighting and the enemy force that has taken you captive. Include details about the living conditions, the methods you use to communicate with others, and the ways you maintain morale.
2. The National Prisoner of War Museum has commissioned you to create a new memorial dedicated to American POWs. Your memorial may be a mural painting, sculpture, quilt, or other form of artistic expression. Design your memorial and include a paragraph explaining the symbolism of your design.