INTRODUCTION

Men and women who were elementary- or middle-school-aged during World War II are now in their 70s and 80s. Most have vivid memories of the war years and many are eager to share their experiences with students. Does one of your students have a family member who was a child on the Home Front? If so, why not invite him or her to speak to your class? Students will get a great chance to “see themselves in history” by hearing about life as a child in another age.

PROCEDURES

1. Invite an individual who was a kid during World War II to your class. The most likely source would be a grandparent of one of your students.

2. Brainstorm what questions your students may ask and have them write the questions on note cards ahead of time. Make sure students will listen not just for how things were different back then, but also how they were the same.

3. Don’t forget to send a thank-you note to your guest speaker.

TIME REQUIREMENT

1 class period

KEY THEMES

HISTORY