

Nihonjin Face

Pre-Show Activities & Discussion



Secondary Grades; 10 – 20 minutes

- 1.) Brush up on your understanding of Japanese American experiences during World War II.
 - For a concise overview of the events leading up to the forced removal and incarceration of American citizens and residents of Japanese heritage, visit Densho's [Sites of Shame](#), which includes a couple brief paragraphs on what happened.
 - Peruse the videos at the [Densho YouTube Channel](#).

2.) Options for introducing the content to your student(s):

- Read a passage from a book in [Densho's List](#) of young adult literature.
- Imagine being forced from your home, along with your family and imprisoned in a camp surrounded by soldiers, not because anyone in your family did anything wrong, but because they *could* do something wrong. Would this be a reasonable rule? Why or why not? How does this relate to due process?
- Read or summarize an article on the current rise of anti-Asian racism that is occurring due to COVID-19. Why is it problematic to blame an entire group for something? Whether or not you are part of that group, what do we all lose when we blame or limit the rights of an entire group, based on how people look or speak, or where their family is from?
- Read Amendments 4 – 6 of the Bill of Rights, then watch Densho's videos, [Looking Like the Enemy](#) or [American Concentration Camps](#).



Trains to Assembly Center, 1942; Dorothea Lange; Courtesy of the National Archives and Records Administration