



Journeys Outreach Kits

THEN/HiER Final Report, March 2011

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INTRODUCTION

Thanks to the 2009 THEN/HiER Small Projects grant, the National Nikkei Museum & Heritage Centre is now able to rent out curriculum-based elementary and secondary teaching kits to enhance the classroom exploration of Japanese Canadian history. This final report includes

- Descriptions and photos of the elementary and secondary kits
- Outcomes regarding use of the kits, with photos and selected comments from teachers
- Prospects for future plans for the kits

Any questions regarding this project can be directed to the Education Coordinator by email, learning@nikkeiplace.org.

Online information about the kits is available at <http://www.jcnm.ca/education-programs>.

DESCRIPTION

The kits are designed to enhance the Internment and Redress teacher guides. Each kit is packed with copies of artifacts, films, a wooden model of an internment house and a comprehensive teaching guide with background and activities. We have three copies of each kind of kit. Educators rent them for \$40 + GST for three weeks at a time and are also responsible for arranging transportation.

National Nikkei Museum and Heritage Centre
6688 Southoaks Crescent
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Elementary Kits



Journeys Kit from the outside.



Elementary Journeys Kit with the insides out.

The Elementary Kits are designed to support the Grade 5 BC Social Studies Curriculum. Here's what they include.

Teacher guide

Internment and Redress: the Story of Japanese Canadians. To support the grade 5 Social Studies curricula in BC and other provinces, a creative team of master teachers developed a comprehensive teaching guide on Japanese Canadian history, focusing on Internment and Redress. Filled with background information, support materials, and activities on Japanese Canadian history and human rights, these valuable resources are further supported with a web site (japanesecanadianhistory.net). We also offer them for purchase individually through our bookstore.

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Teacher Resources Binder

- Furoshiki (A multi-purpose decorative cloth traditionally used by Japanese people to wrap and carry materials)
- Asahi baseball team information
- Certificate of Naturalization
- Photos of internment camps and ID card
- Comparison of Canadians and Americans of Japanese descent
- Instructions on origami and sheets of origami paper

Literature Circle Binder (1 copy of each)

- *Naomi's Road*, by Joy Kogawa
- *Baseball Saved Us* by Ken Mochizuki and Dom Lee
- *Caged Eagles* by Eric Walters
- *The Reunion* by Jacqueline Pearce
- *Hello Maggie* by Shigeru Yabu
- *A Child in a Prison Camp* by Shizue Takashima

Documentary Video

- "Minoru: Memory of Exile" National Film Board

Wooden scale model of an Internment Shack

Laminated Copies of Posters

- "Notice to All Persons of Japanese Racial Origin"
- "Kids pay the price of racism"
- "Acknowledgment"

Yours to Keep – Current materials from the NNM&HC

These include Nikkei Images, a Japanese Canadian National Museum publication featuring articles about Japanese Canadian history.

Secondary Kits



Secondary Journeys Kit *with the insides out.*

Teacher Guide

Internment and Redress: the Story of Japanese Canadians. To support the grade 11 Social Studies curricula in BC and other provinces, a creative team of master teachers developed a comprehensive teaching guide on Japanese Canadian history, focusing on Internment and Redress. Filled with background information, support materials, and activities on Japanese Canadian history and human rights, these valuable resources are further supported with a web site (japanesecanadianhistory.net). We also offer them for purchase individually through our bookstore.

Books

- "Internment and Redress: The Japanese"
- *Shashin*
- *Re-shaping Memory Owning History*
- *Justice In Our Time – The Japanese*
- *Canadian Redress Settlement*

Videos

- *Enemy Alien*
- *Minoru: Memory of Exile*

Posters

- *Kids pay the price of racism*
- *Notice To All Persons of Japanese Racial Origin*
- *Acknowledgement*
- *Ikebana*

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Model of an Internment Shack

BINDER 'Internment and Exile'

Pre-War

- Historic Map of Japantown
- Certificate of Naturalization
- Registration Certificate
- Souvenir Program: Asahi Baseball

Evacuation

- Instructions: The War Measures Act
- Poster: *Universal Declaration of Human Rights*
- 1991 Article: *Asako Mary Seki's Story*
- 1942 Article: *Liberty for All Canadians Knows No Bar of Race, Color*
- 1942 Article: *For Sale, Lease or Transfer -- These 1000 Jap Boats*
- 1942 Ad: *Selling Out Men's Topcoats*
- 1942 Letter to Austin Taylor
- 1942 Letter to Nisei

Hastings Park

- Instructions: Hastings Park (PNE)
- 1942 Letter: *To Whom It May Concern*
- 1942 Article: *They Walked Home*
- 1942 Article: *Manning Pool Plan*
- 1942 Photo: Making Mattresses
- 1942 Photo: Men's Sleeping area
- 1942 Photo: Women's Sleeping Area
- 1942 Photo: Women & Children's Dining Area

Internment

- Instructions: Internment Camps
- Quote: Slocan, Lemon Creek
- Quote: Sandon
- 1942 Photo: Family outside Commission House
- 1942 Photo: Women and children in kitchen
- Instructions: Internment Shack
- 1942 Photo: Children at a creek
- 1942 Photo: Children learning Maypole dance
- 1942 Photo: Funeral in Prisoner of War camp
- 1943 Letter: Dear Friends:

Dispersal

- Sept. 1944 Letter to Officer of the Custodian
- Oct. 1944 Letter to Mr. Inouye

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- 1945 Poster: To All Persons of Japanese Racial Origin
- 1945 Repatriation Form
- 1945 Letter to Reiko
- 1945 Letter to the Prime Minister of Canada
- Photo: Japanese Canadians waiting to be exiled to Japan

BINDER 'From Racism to Multiculturalism – Canada's Journey'

The Right to Vote

- Time Line
- Tomekichi Homma
- 1900 Article: *Japanese Will Fight...*
- 1936 Report: *Survey of the Second Generation Japanese..*
- 2001 Article: *Mitsui's Medals Mean Nothing...*
- 1948 Article: *Greenwood Residents Vote*
- Photo (when?!): Japanese Canadian Woman voting
- Quote: "It is no exaggeration..."

Redress

- Instructions
- 1988 Photo: Rally on Parliament Hill
- Pamphlet: Justice in our time
- Terms of Agreement
- 1991 Program: Tomekichi Homma Elementary School

OUTCOMES

In 2010, the three elementary kits were rented 7 times, representing at least 200 students. Most of the kits were picked up by local teachers, but we did have some in other parts of the province and included a rental in Calgary. Two student teachers and a Library science teacher used them. As of March 2011, the intermediate kit has been rented three times including once with a French immersion teacher who translated materials herself and said we could refer others to her work. We have also had a repeat user who also booked a field trip on Japanese Canadian history as a follow up. A graduate student from East Anglia University examined them and will provide feedback. The senior kit was rented to introduce Japanese students in the Ritsumeikan program at UBC to Japanese Canadian history. We have also had positive feedback and interest from teachers at Social Studies conferences. Below are a few representative quotes from teachers.

Teaching Resource Guide

Christine Haladay, a high school teacher in Ontario had this to say about the senior teaching guide,

"...it was delightful to find photographs, personal accounts, historical articles, news articles all in one place as well as suggestions for other materials which align with subject matter. As a teacher of five grades, I appreciate this time saving aspect of the resource!"

"The school at which I teach focuses heavily on social justice themes as well as working toward teaching inclusive curriculum. I have found this resource to be rich in both areas."

Journeys Kits

Grade 4/5 teacher Christina Luciak from Calgary AB sent this email while they were using the kit.

"Our students are finding it very interesting. We have set up centres around our classroom with the materials. Students taught themselves how to do origami for mother's day gifts. The materials in the kit have opened huge class discussions and taken our students learning way beyond our expectations...Thank you for putting together such a wonderful wealth of knowledge for students to learn from."

Here is feedback and suggestions from Laura Rhead (who also provided the classroom photos), a grade 6 teacher in Vancouver.

"The Journeys kit was a visual, informational and emotional tool for my class during our study of WWII this year...I found the teacher's guide to be very clearly organized and I appreciated the various suggestions and blackline masters for each subject area. I would recommend that you promote the kit with this resource book especially. I liked everything offered in it and base my rave reviews on two things:

- accuracy and quality of the materials presented*
- flexibility in use (I could follow the resource guide and use handouts or just use the artifacts, items and books in my own way)*

This is a great option that you could present to teachers--use what you wish--as it allows us to make the best of primary documents and not feel pressured to learn and teach a brand new unit. However, it was very simple to follow the suggested lesson plans.

I used:

- Minoru film and discussion questions/handout*
- artifacts*
- origami materials*
- all primary documents provided (ID cards, photos, articles)*
- "Baseball Saved Us" story book*
- Redress documents*
- Charter of RF copies/handout*

I think the film was particularly effective and seeing the internment shack to scale was another eye-opener.

Of course, the origami was a favourite as we had just finished reading Sadako as a class and folded 500 cranes! A tip for this--tell teachers to cut squares from old magazines--this is a great thickness of paper and it works well when you need a lot of it!

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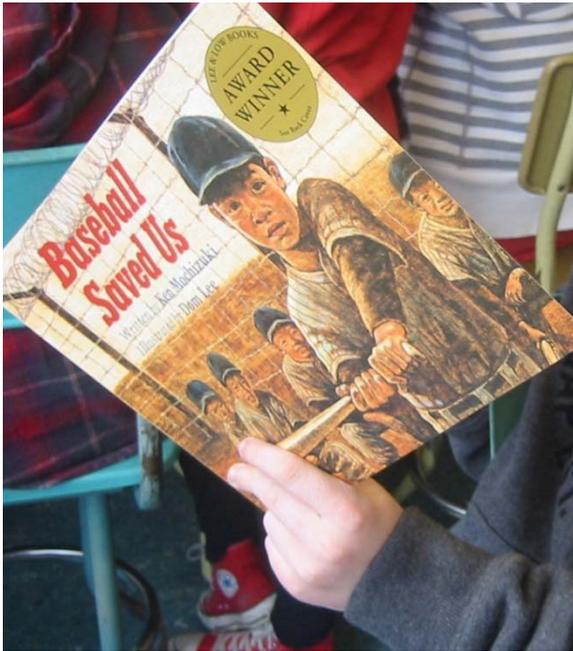
Another direct link to what we were doing was with the grade 6 curriculum, looking at the Charter of Rights and Freedoms--we did this and made links to the statements and documents issued by the government at that time. The kids had a very important and deep conversation about redress. They also linked this with the treatment of aboriginal people in Canada. I think overall, it was an excellent resource and there was little if anything I would change about it.

I think I focused on the internment and many of the negatives...perhaps if I had had more time I would have balanced this with a further study of Japanese culture and customs today. I did not have a chance to read some of the texts provided--maybe these would cover some of that information?

The literature circle books were a fantastic idea. Something that could enhance this would be the option to sign out a class set or a set of 6 books perhaps, of a particular text. This would allow for the class to have a literary focus on the same theme. I read "Baseball Saved Us" aloud and that provided information for a great discussion but nothing really extended. I placed the books on a ledge for the kids to browse if they wanted to."



Examining Internment house model (L Rhead)



Reading an Internment story. (L Rhead)



Discussing a poster on Redress (L Rhead)

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Folding origami cranes (L Rhead)

PROSPECTS

We have been encouraged by the feedback from users of the kits and will continue to develop the contents. As well, as awareness of these resources grows, through word-of-mouth and various forms of social media and efforts such as presentations at Social Studies conferences, we fully expect the number of rentals to grow. As well, we see these kits as being a foundation for building similar resources in parts of Canada interested in helping students learn more about this important period in Canadian history.

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