



# #9624

## PICTURE THIS AMERICA: REMEMBERING THOSE WHO SERVED

Goldsmith Productions, LLC, 1999

Grade Levels: 6-9

52 minutes

### DESCRIPTION

John and Jan Goldsmith narrate this tribute about Memorial Day. Features gifts left at the Vietnam Memorial (The Wall), their storage, and treatment; the United States Marine Corps War Memorial (better known as the Iwo Jima Memorial) with comments from its sculptor; civil war reenactments; a short history of women in war and military service; reminiscences about the luncheon meat spam in World War II; and a brief look at dogs in war.

### ACADEMIC STANDARDS

**Subject Area: Grades K-4 History - Topic 3 - The History of the United States: Democratic Principles and Values and the People from Many Cultures who Contributed to its Cultural, Economic, and Political Heritage**

- ★ Standard: Understands how democratic values came to be, and how they have been exemplified by people, events, and symbols
  - Benchmark: Knows why important buildings, statues, and monuments (e.g., the White House, Lincoln Memorial, Statue of Liberty, Ellis Island, Angel Island, Mt. Rushmore, veterans' memorials) are associated with state and national history (See Instructional Goal #2.)
  - Benchmark: Understands the historical events and democratic values commemorated by major national holidays (e.g., Martin Luther King Jr. Day; President's Day; Memorial Day; the Fourth of July; Labor Day; Veteran's Day; Thanksgiving) (See Instructional Goal #1.)

### INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS

1. To introduce the historical events and democratic values commemorated by Memorial Day and other national holidays.
2. To explain why important buildings, statues, and monuments are associated with state and national history.

## VOCABULARY

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|-------------------|-----------------|
| 1. memorial       | 13. survivor    |
| 2. tribute        | 14. commemorate |
| 3. patriotism     | 15. combat      |
| 4. honor          | 16. conflict    |
| 5. bravery        | 17. platoon     |
| 6. sculptor       | 18. casualties  |
| 7. salute         | 19. front lines |
| 8. battlefield    | 20. enlistee    |
| 9. drafted        | 21. veteran     |
| 10. exhibit       | 22. civilian    |
| 11. significant   | 23. canine      |
| 12. immortalizing |                 |



## BEFORE SHOWING

1. Brainstorm ideas about the American armed services using a chart with three columns: name of war, memorial location, and branch of the service honored.
2. Discuss the purpose for the Memorial Day and Veterans Day holidays. How they are celebrated?

## AFTER SHOWING

### ► Discussion Items and Questions

1. What happens to the thousands of tributes left daily at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial? What kinds of objects are left? How do these objects write history from the bottom up?
2. What does the United States Marine Corps War Memorial immortalize? Who were the men in Joe Rosenthal's photo? How did Felix de Weldon create this sculpture? What is the size of the sculpture?
3. Why is there no combat footage of the Civil War? What is the purpose of the reenactments? How do participants prepare to participate in reenactments? How authentic are the reenactments?
4. Why did it take so long to establish the Women in Military Service of America Memorial? In what capacities have women served in the military? Why have they not been recognized as veterans?
5. How is SPAM luncheon meat related to war? Why do veterans have strong feelings related to SPAM? How popular is SPAM?
6. What roles have dogs played in the military? What memorials honor these canine combatants?

### ► Applications and Activities

1. Complete the chart begun in Before Showing #1. Use information from the video and also further research. Include national, state, and local memorials.
2. Plan a trip to visit the United States war memorials in Washington D.C. Consider visiting the memorials discussed in the video. Investigate other memorials in Washington D.C., Virginia, and Maryland.

## RELATED RESOURCES



- [The Wall #2694](#)
- [The Sky's the Limit #3412](#)
- [The Vietnam Memorials: All the Unsung Heroes #8577](#)



### World Wide Web

The following Web sites complement the contents of this guide; they were selected by professionals who have experience in teaching deaf and hard of hearing students. Every effort was made to select accurate, educationally relevant, and "kid safe" sites. However, teachers should preview them before use. The U.S. Department of Education, the National Association of the Deaf, and the Captioned Media Program do not endorse the sites and are not responsible for their content.

### • THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

<http://www.nps.gov/>

This mega-site includes information about national memorials in Washington D.C. and around the country.



### • WOMEN IN MILITARY SERVICE OF AMERICA MEMORIAL

<http://www.womensmemorial.org/>

This site includes history of the memorial, related news articles, and educational resources.

### • THE VIRTUAL WALL ®

<http://www.virtualwall.org/>

# THE VIRTUAL WALL

Contains tributes to those on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., but is not affiliated with the actual Wall.

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- **NATIONAL WWII MEMORIAL**

<http://www.wwiimemorial.com/>

This memorial for World War II veterans is being built in Washington, D.C. It will be dedicated on May 29, 2004.

A blue rectangular banner with the text "NATIONAL WWII MEMORIAL" in large, white, serif capital letters. Below it, in a smaller white serif font, is "Washington, D.C." The background of the banner shows a faint, blue-tinted image of the memorial's architecture.

NATIONAL WWII MEMORIAL  
Washington, D.C.

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- **IWO JIMA**

<http://www.iwojima.com/>

This site covers the history of the battle of Iwo Jima and the U.S. Marine Corps War Memorial.

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- **WAR DOGS: THE UNTOLD STORY OF DOGS IN COMBAT**

<http://www.war-dogs.com/>

Contains information about dogs in combat including related news stories, memorials, and memorabilia.



- **THE NATIONAL CIVIL WAR ASSOCIATION**

<http://ncwa.org/>

This site includes historical information regarding the Civil War and reenactments.

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- **SPAM**

<http://spam.com/>

This site includes history, memorabilia, and product information.

