Weiner Gifted & Talented Program 2nd-3rd

HOLOCAUST



BY PATRICIA HESSE

JEWISH LIFE BEFORE THE NAZIS

Have you ever heard of the **Nazis**? They were a group in Germany a long time ago who followed their evil leader name Adolph **Hitler**. They did not like Jews. In fact, they hated Jews so much they set out to kill them all --even the children. We will learn more about that in Chapter 2, but let's take a look at what life was like for the Jews before the Nazis came to power.

The Jews in Germany and nearby countries lived life as a **minority**. People called minorities are thought of as being different because of their race or their culture. Jewish children loved to play and went to school just like you. Jewish parents loved their children like your parents love you. Jewish children liked visiting their grandparents and riding bicycles, just like you. Jewish children were children, just like you.



Cortini, Letizia. "Raccontare La Shoah Prima Della Shoah: Roman Vishniac". visioni dalla storia. N.p., 2013. Web. 2 Aug. 2016.

Do you think the dreams and hopes of minority children for their future are the same or different from the dreams you have for your future? Explain.

ANTISEMITISM

The Jews have almost always faced **prejudice** and **discrimination**, known as **antisemitism**. It was the Jews in the Old Testament who lived as slaves of Pharaoh until Moses saved them. **Prejudice** means **people judge someone or have an opinion about them before they know anything about them**. This causes them to **discriminate** against them **--not be nice to them and to be mean to them even though they haven't done anything wrong**.

Jews believe in God and read the same Old Testament that has stories of Daniel in the Lion's Den and Noah and the flood, but many Jews do not believe that Jesus is the Son of God. They are still looking for the Messiah to come. Other Jews believe other things --some Jews are even Christians. Throughout history, Jews were seen by many as God's Chosen People. Jews are very different from one another.



A Star of David burns in flames.. (photo credit:REUTERS)

Most people do not understand the meanings of prejudice and discrimination. In your OWN words how would you explain what they mean by making up a story?

What is the difference between race and ethnicity? Why did it not make sense to call the Jews a race?

The Nazis decided that it didn't matter what your religion was or where you lived --if you had relatives somewhere who were Jews that meant you were a Jew too, and they didn't like you.

Before Hitler and the Nazis came to power, Jews had good lives and were treated the same as everyone else. Hitler would change that.

The Nazis began telling people that Germans were better than other people, and that Jews were not as good. In fact, they said Jews were not even real humans. The Nazis said all Jews looked alike ...that they all had dark hair and big noses. However, many Jews were blonde with small noses, and many Germans had dark hair and big noses. Jews looked as different from one another as we do. The Nazis told people that Jews were a race like Asians or blacks.

Hitler told the German people that the country's problems were because of the Jews. The Jews were blamed for everything. Sadly, most German people began listening to Hitler and began following the antisemitism and discrimination of Hitler and the Nazis.

Life for Jews --even Jewish children who were no different than German children would become horrible.



http://antisemitism.org.il/eng/Holocaust

ANTISEMITISM - is prejudice and discrimination <u>toward Jews</u>. There are other groups and types of people who have also experienced and continue to experience prejudice and discrimination: African Americans, the elderly, and others. Can you think of other types of people that experience prejudice and discrimination?

HITLER

Sadly, there have always been bad people, but Adolph Hitler was one of the worst. In fact, he can be called evil. It is hard to understand why people in Germany would make him their leader, but they did. The reason they did was that things weren't good in Germany. It was hard to find a job. People didn't have enough money. Hitler told them that he would change that. He told them he would end all their problems. He blamed the world for Germany's problems and especially the Jews.

Hitler was a very **dynamic** speaker. He was loud and spoke with **conviction**. People listened. They flocked to his speeches. They believed everything he said. The people made him the head of the German government. They called him the Chancellor.

Hitler would cause World War II and set out to get rid of the Jews.

Why do you think the German people believed everything Hitler said? Explain your thoughts as they relate to the phrase, "It's sounds too good to be true."



Photo: Adolf Hitler giving the Nazi salute during a rally in 1939. (AFP/Getty Images)

NO FREEDOM

The first thing Hitler did was take away freedoms.

Newspapers could not print what they wanted. People couldn't say anything bad about Hitler or the Nazis.

Hitler's Nazis could even read other people's mail and listen to their telephone conversations to make sure that people didn't break these new rules, Hitler created the Nazi **Storm Troopers**. They acted like bad policemen and beat up people and sometimes even killed them if they **opposed** Hitler.

Another group of Hitler's Nazis was called the **SS**. They wore black shirts with a skull and crossbones on them. They had more power than the Storm Troopers.

The last group of Hitler's Nazis was called the **Gestapo**. They were Secret Police and had more power than all the others and were know to be **cruel**. Even the Storm Troopers and SS had to do what they said!

Why do you think people do bad things? Explain.



http://collections.yadvashem.org/photosarchive/en-us/4408563_4473135.html

NAZI RACISM

For years Hitler spread his belief that PURE Germans were better than others. He called them **Aryans** and said they were the **MASTER RACE**. He said the Aryans would take over the whole world! Hitler believed that Aryans were blond, blue-eyed, and tall. This seems strange since Hitler himself was dark headed, dark eyed, and short!

Hitler disliked people who weren't "Aryans," including Jews. He didn't like **Romany**, people with handicaps, people who couldn't hear or were blind and many other types of people he believed had no value.



GERMAN LEAGUE OF GIRLS (BUND DEUTSCHER MÄDEL)
In-text: ("German League Of Girls (Bund Deutscher Mädel)")

"German League Of Girls (Bund Deutscher Mädel)". Spartacus Educational. N.p., 2016. Web. 2 Aug. 2016.

Does how you look make you more important than another person? Do you think television, music and movie stars send the message that some people have more value than others? Explain.

Hitler and other Nazi leaders said that the Jews were a poisonous "race" which made Germany weak.

Teachers in schools began measuring the length of student's noses and writing down the color of their hair and eyes to decide if they were true Aryans. Jewish children, Romany children, and other children in the groups Hitler didn't like were treated badly.

Racism - the belief that one race of people is better than another or that one race is not as good as another.

Races: Caucasian, Black, Asian

Think: "Many say there are only TWO races of people --good people and bad people."



BOYCOTT

Less than 1% of the people living in Germany were Jews. That means that out of 100 people, only 1 might be a Jew. Before Hitler, Jews lived all over Europe and loved their countries. Jews in Germany were poets, writers, musicians, artists, doctors, and had many other valued jobs. Many Jews fought for Germany in World War I and won medals for bravery. Jews were teachers and scientists. Many non-Jewish Germans married German Jews. All that would end.

The Nazis had a **boycott** of Jewish businesses. Storm troopers stood in front of their stores keeping customers out. The Storm Troopers painted yellow "**Stars of David**" across the doors and windows telling people to stay away. Signs were hung that said, "Don't Buy from Jews."



http://rarehistoricalphotos.com/nazis-singing-encourage-boycott-allegedly-jewish-founded-woolworths-1933/

What do you think was the real reason the Germans had the boycott of Jewish businesses?

PROPAGANDA

Propaganda is a saying or doing things to make people think a certain way. It is tricking them on purpose to believe what you want them to believe. The Nazis were masters of propaganda. They used the newspapers, books, art, and even music and movies to control the German people.

Anything or anyone that had a different message other than the Nazi message was **censored**. That means silenced or removed. They even burned books that they were afraid might make people want freedom. They built huge bonfires. On one night they burned over 25,000 books! Some of those books were written by Americans. They thought the ideas in those books were dangerous and caused people to think for themselves.



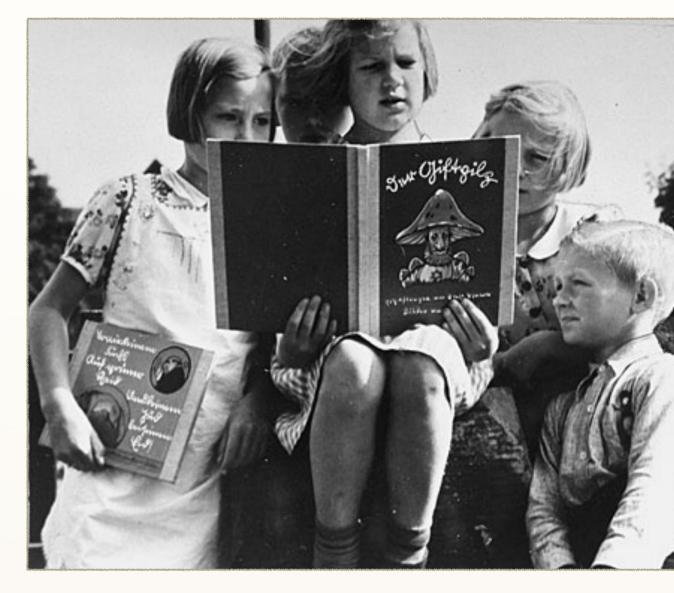
PicturaHistoria.com. N.p., 2015. Web. 2 Aug. 2016.

Propaganda and censorship are both about stopping ideas and thinking. Why do you think Hitler thought he needed to use propaganda on the German people?

Schools were also used by the Nazis in spreading their ideas. The Nazis believed that it was important to control how kids were thinking. They knew that if they taught children their evil ways when they were young, they would grow up to be good Nazis. Some of their class books were taken out of their classrooms by the **censors**. New textbooks filled with **propaganda** replaced the censored books.

The kids' new school books were about how wonderful Hitler and the Nazis were. The books were also about how bad Jews were and that they weren't human. The books taught children to obey the Nazis before their parents.

The Nazis even had after school clubs for girls and boys. The girls' group was called the League of German Girls. The boys' group was called the Hitler Youth. They were



trained to be faithful to the Nazi party. They even celebrated Hitler's birthday.

(The book the girl is holding and reading to her friends is called "The Poisonous Mushroom" and is about not trusting Jews and knowing they are dangerous and not human.)

RACE LAWS

Eventually, the Nazis made new laws that took voting away from Jews and took away other rights too. These were called the **Nuremberg Laws**. Many Germans who had not practiced the Jewish religion for years were hurt by the laws.

Jewish workers lost their jobs. Jewish stores were taken away and given to others. Jewish doctors and lawyers were not allowed to work for Germans.

Jews had to carry cards with a red "J" stamped on them. Everywhere they went the Nuremberg Laws made the lives of Jews hard. For instance, they were only allowed to sit on park benches marked, "For Jews Only."



http://www.yadvashem.org/yv/en/holocaust/resource_center/item.asp?
GATE=Z&list_type=1-3&TYPE_ID=6&TOTAL=Y&pn=9&title=Persecution

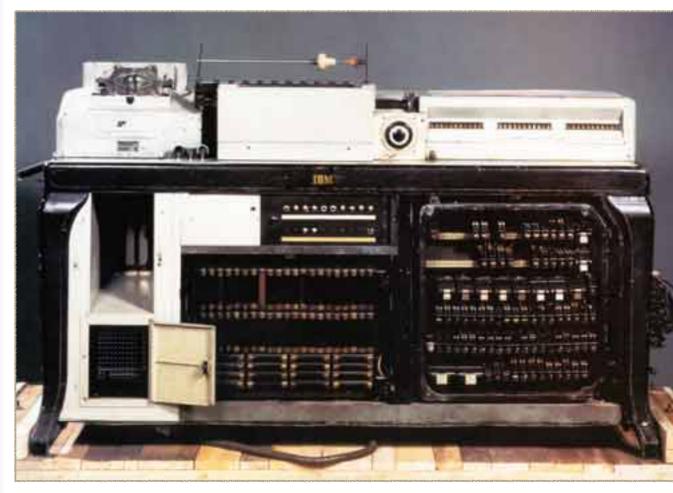
The Nuremberg Laws were terrible for Jews. Why do you think the German people didn't try to stop them?

THE FINDER

The Nazis wanted to locate where all Jews in Germany were living. They took a **census** in all of Germany. A census records each person's age, where they live, what they do for a job, their religion, and the race of their parents and grandparents. This was punched on special cards. The information on the cards was put into the **Hollerith** machine. They did the same thing in the other countries that German troops defeated Now, the Nazis could easily find the Jews they wanted to get rid of.

The Hollerith was one of the first computers made by IBM. Why do you think the Nazis took a census of ALL Germans, if the real reason was to know where the Jews were living?

"IBM & "Death's Calculator" | Jewish Virtual Library". Jewishvirtuallibrary.org. N.p., 2016. Web. 2 Aug. 2016.



BROKEN GLASS

Things got worse. The Nazis planned **pogroms**, showing the Jews that they were not safe in Germany. The pogroms were known as **Kristallnacht**, the "**Night of Broken Glass**." Over 1000 **synagogues** (what Jews call their churches) were burned, 2000 Jewish stores were robbed and the glass store fronts broken out. Many Jewish men and women were put in jail.

After the Night of Broken Glass, life was even harder for Jewish children. They couldn't go to museums, playgrounds, or swimming pools. They were even told they couldn't go to school anymore. Many families tried to leave the country.



"Damaged-Jewish-Owned-Storefront-After-Kristallnacht-Riot - Remembering The Holocaust Pictures - The Holocaust - HISTORY.Com". HISTORY.com. N.p., 2016. Web. 2 Aug. 2016.

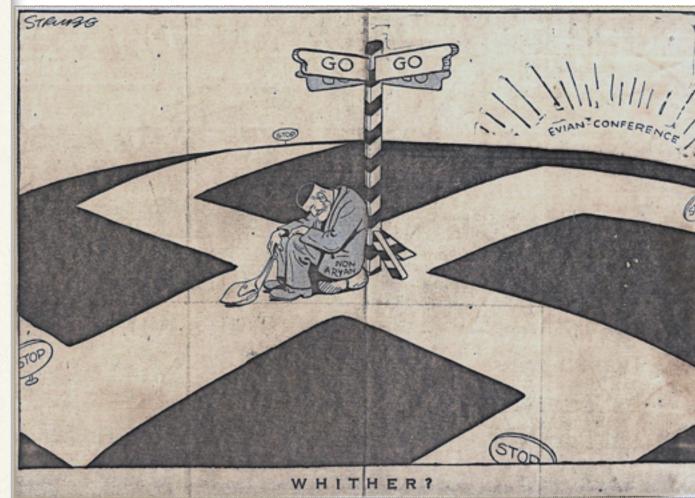
Kristallnacht was a turning point for Jews. A turning point is something that makes you see things and understand things better than ever before, causing you to change what you had been thinking or had been doing. Explain how Kristallnacht was a turning point for Jews.

REFUGEES

Nazis wanted Germany *Judenrein*. That means there would be no Jews anywhere. Some Jews had already left Germany, going to other countries where they would be safe. Many Jews couldn't find a country to take them.

Some Jews tried to come to the United States, but couldn't get the **visas** they needed to come. A visa is a paper saying you have permission to enter. Americans were afraid the Jews would take their jobs. The United States took a few Jews because the leaders knew things were dangerous for them in Germany. Thirty-two countries had a meeting in France at a place called **Evian** to talk about what to do. Sadly, nothing happened to help the Jews. All countries made excuses why they couldn't let the Jews into their countries.

The Jews had no where to go and no one to help them.



Enc.wymaninstitute.org. N.p., 2016. Web. 2 Aug. 2016.

Carefully look at the cartoon above. Explain what you think it is saying?

THE ST. LOUIS

The **St. Louis** was a German ocean liner. Over 900 Jews left Germany on the St. Louis headed to Cuba, trying to find a place to **emigrate**. They had the needed **visas**. But when they got there, Cuba would not let them enter.

The Jews on the ship were scared and sailed to the United States, hoping to enter. The ship was not allowed to dock. Sadly, the St. Louis had to go back to Europe. Except for 288 passengers who got off the ship in England, most of the Jews on the St. Louis had to go back to where the Nazis were and perished in the Holocaust.



"A Thought For Seder Night". World Jewish Relief. N.p., 2016. Web. 2 Aug. 2016.

A trip across the ocean on an boat like the St.

Louis took two weeks. Imagine how relieved the

Jews were when they saw Cuba. Imagine their

despair when they were told they could not get off

the boat and enter the country? Relieved and

despair are opposites. How would you

explain their meaning to a young child?

WAR BEGINS

There have been two wars that were called World Wars. World War 1 happened before Hitler. World War 2 was started by Hitler. He was now called **Fuhrer**. He planned on Germany taking over all of Europe.

Hitler's army took over country after country. Hitler said he needed more living space for Aryans. He wanted their land. **Poland** was one country the Nazis took over. The Polish people were treated almost as badly as the Jews. The Nazis took many blonde and blue-eyed children from their parents to be adopted by German parents. Hitler wanted them to be part of his Aryan German nation.



Which do you think is worse?
Taking land and homes away from hundreds of people or taking children to become Germans? Explain.

NOT PERFECT

Hitler told everyone that Germans were the Master Race. He told the world that they were better than everyone else --that they were perfect. But, all over the world people have challenges to deal with. There were Germans that had things wrong with them too. They were deaf or blind. They had mental challenges or diseases like cancer.

No one is perfect and no one is useless. Hitler wanted to get rid of Germans who weren't perfect. The Nazis started the "T-4" program. People with disabilities or diseases were made to go to hospitals where they were secretly killed with an injection or gassing.

This castle in Hartheim was one of the sites of these horrible places the Nazis called hospitals. **No one is unworthy of life --all people have value**. The T-4 programs was a warning about just how evil Hitler and the Nazis were and would become.

No one is perfect. Why is it maybe a good thing NOT to be perfect?

"Background & Overview Of The Nazi Euthanasia (T-4) Program | Jewish Virtual Library".



YELLOW STAR

Hitler's Nazis took over the countries of France, Belgium, Holland, Norway, and even more. The Nazis made life horrible for Jews. They were forced to buy and wear a six-pointed **Star of David** anytime they went outside their homes.

The Jews who had left Germany for safe countries, now found the Nazis coming in and taking over those countries too. They were once again in danger. Some Jews went into hiding. Some tried to pretend to be other people. Most were arrested and taken to **transit camps**, and then moved on by train to Nazi **concentration camps** like **Auschwitz**, where most were killed.



"The Yellow Star". Bl.uk. N.p., 2016. Web. 2 Aug. 2016.

Why do you think the Nazis wanted the Jews to wear the yellow star?

"Ghettos In Poland — Photograph". Ushmm.org. N.p., 2016. Web. 2 Aug. 2016.

GHETTOS

Millions of Jews lived in Eastern Europe. There were more than two million (2,000,000!) Jews in just the country of Poland. When the Nazis took over Poland, they made all the Jews live together in small sections of cities and towns called **ghettos**. The biggest ghetto was in **Warsaw**, Poland.

The Nazis picked the worst parts of town for the Jews to live. They made the people who were already living there leave. Many Jewish families had to live together in an apartment that was made for one family. It was so crowded! The Nazis surrounded the ghetto with barbed wire so the Jews couldn't leave except through a gate guarded by the SS. The Jews couldn't take many things with them into the ghetto --there wasn't any room.



Why do you think the Germans moved all the Jews together in the ghetto? What was their reason for doing this?

GHETTO LIFE

Life in the ghetto was horrible. There was no running water to drink or to flush toliets. Sickness was everywhere. Sickness is caused by **unsanitary conditions** --not being able to keep clean spreads germs. The people were starving. There was hardly any food at all. In the winter there was nothing to heat the rooms with. People were cold, sick, and weak. Many died.

Parents sometimes died too, so many children were **orphans**. Children helped sneak food into the ghetto. They became like little secret agents. At night, they would crawl under the barbed wire and steal food from shops and sneak it back into the ghetto for the others. Children kept going to school in the ghetto even though they were hungry. The schools were secret. The Nazis did not want Jewish children to learn. They had to hide their books from the S.S.. Even though it was bad, the children were brave and still played with whatever they could find.



"Extracts From The Diary Of Abraham Lewin "Ghettos" <u>Www.Holocaustresearchproject.Org</u>".

Holocaustresearchproject.org. N.D., 2016. Web. 2 Aug. 2016.

Why do you think it was the children who snuck out at night to bring food into the ghetto?

DEPORTATIONS

The Nazis came up with an evil plan called "The Final Solution." It was a plan to get rid of all the Jews in Europe for good. Jews living in ghettos were "deported" to huge camps called extermination camps. These camps were built to kill the Jews with poisonous gas. The camps were away from cities. The Nazis wanted to keep these horrible places a secret. The camps were close to railroad stations. That is because the Nazis moved people out of the ghettos and onto trains to get them there.

When the Jews got on the trains they hoped they would be going to a place better than the awful ghettos. They soon found out that would not happen... "This Month In Holocaust History - November". Yadvashem.org. N.p., 2016. Web. 2 Aug. 2016.



Why do you think the Nazis wanted to keep the extermination camps secret?

THE TRAIN

The train trip could last a few hours or several days. It depended on how far the ghetto was from the camp. People were crammed into **boxcars** until there was no room for anyone to even move. There were no seats, no bathrooms, and only a skinny opening on the side to let light in. It was dark. It was hot in the summer and freezing cold in the winter. There was no food.

When they finally got to the camp, the doors were opened. The Jews came out, believing nothing could be as bad as that train ride, but they would be wrong about that.

"Auschwitz Transport And Arrival - Key Stage 3 - The Holocaust Explained". Theholocaust explained.org. N.p.,



What do you think would be the worst part about the train ride in the boxcars? Why?

THE SELECTION

Jews getting off the train heard guards yelling for them to form a line. This was the **selection**. The Nazis looked at each person, deciding if that person was strong enough to do hard, slave labor. If the Nazis didn't think you looked strong, you were sent to the **gas chambers**. The people didn't know this. They thought they were going to another part of the camp to take a shower and be fed. Many, many Jews lost their lives in Nazi gas chambers.

Those **selected** to do hard work were sent to the camp barracks. No one was allowed to take the suitcase they brought on the train. That is because the Nazis went through all the suitcases and stole what they wanted. The people selected to work found that the ghetto was a wonderful place next to the camp.

"Selection At The Concentration Camps - Key Stage 3 - The Holocaust Explained". Theholocaust explained.org.



What kinds of people or groups of people do you think the Nazis probably did NOT select to live and work? Why?

CAMP LIFE

Auschwitz-Birkenau was the biggest of the Nazi camps. The first thing that happened to Jews selected to do hard labor was getting their heads shaved --even the women. At Auschwitz, they put a **tattoo** on your left arm showing an identification number. Next, ragged clothes and wooden clogs were handed out. They did not fit. Each person was given only one thing to wear. They had to wear it over and over and over. There were no washing machines, so the clothes got very dirty.

The bathrooms were only buckets and there was no sink or shower. There was no glass in the barrack windows where they slept, so rain and snow and insects came in. In the cold winter there was no heat there either. The beds were three-tiered wooden bunks with no mattresses or blankets or pillows. Six people slept on each level.



Reedmission.com. N.p., 2016. Web. 3 Aug. 2016.

Life in the camp was unsanitary and caused sickness and disease. Lice and fleas were a problem too, since they could not wash. Yet, the Nazis made the prisoners work long, hard hours. Why do you think it was easy for the Nazis to treat them so badly?

People in the camp were called **inmates**. They were always hungry. Their food was usually rotten vegetables, a little bit of bread, and a bitter drink that was like coffee.

Many people were very sick from eating the bad food and from the germs caused by unsanitary conditions. The inmates were made to get up shortly after midnight and be counted by Nazi guards. This took a long, long time. Then they had to go and do very hard work. Some worked where all the things in their suitcases had been stored. They had to put all the jewelry together, all the shoes together... everything was sorted. The Nazis sent these things back to Germany for German people to use. They worked in coal mines and dug tunnels and canals. Guards watched them with guns to make sure they did what they were supposed to and didn't escape.

Escape was almost impossible. Everything was surrounded by barbed wire and electric fences. Many of the Jews did not survive.



RESCUERS

Most people in Germany did not help the Nazis do those horrible things to the Jews. But..most people did not do anything to help the Jews either. These people are called **bystanders**. The bystanders told themselves that it wasn't any of their business. Some were too scared to help the Jews. The Nazis made it a crime to help a Jew.

BUT... there were some people who did help and hid Jews so they wouldn't have to go to the ghettos or camps. This was dangerous, but these **rescuers** had courage and knew it was the right thing to do. Nearly 12,000 Jewish children were rescued by a pastor in France. Some Jews were even hidden in the Warsaw Zoo by the zoo's director, Ian Zabinski.



Bystanders chose not to care, not to feel, not to help. Rescuers chose to care, to feel and to help. It is true that many were afraid of the Nazis, but what do you think the bystanders would have done if it had been their child or their father who the Nazis were being cruel to? Why do you think some people don't care unless it is about them, and others care no matter who needs help?

RESISTANCE

Not all Germans followed the Nazis. There were some who thought the Nazis were horrible people. They tried to **resist** the Nazis. They printed secret booklets about how bad and wrong the Nazis were and put them where the German people would find and read them. Some even made small bombs to use against the Nazis.

The biggest group to resist Hitler was a group of young people called the "White Rose." Their leaflets had slogans like "Down with Hitler!" Sadly, members of the White Rose were eventually caught by the Nazis.



The "White Rose" was not a group of adults, but a group of teenagers. Why do you think that sometimes it is young people who are more ready to get involved and help others than adults?

UPRISING

Sometimes Jews living in ghettos and the camps tried to **organize resistance** against the Nazis. They **smuggled** weapons into the ghetto and even made used the weapons against the Nazis. This is called an **uprising**.

When this happened, the Nazis sent in troops armed with machine guns and dogs. The power of Nazi forces was so great, the uprising could not win, but the Jews tried.

Most Jewish resistance was called **spiritual**resistance. This was non-violent and didn't really
have anything to do with church. When Jews kept secret
schools going in ghettos --that was resistance. When they
kept creating art and music in such terrible conditions -that was resistance. Anything they did to remain human
in an **inhuman place** was resistance. It was an uprising.

"Theresienstadt — Photograph". Ushmm.org. N.p., 2016. Web. 3 Aug. 2016.



Explain what you think this means: "The Nazis might have been able to control what happened to the Jews, but they could not control their thoughts, their attitude."

PARTISANS

A few Jews managed to escape from ghettos and camps. They hid in the forests and formed fighting units. Life in the forests was hard. There was little to eat and the winter was cold. Sometimes the people in villages helped the **partisans** by giving them food.

The Jewish partisans helped the Allies fight the Nazis when they could. The partisans also helped other people escape when they could. The Nazis always tried to catch the partisans, but the partisans knew the land in the forests better than the Nazis and knew hiding places.



"The Vilnius Ghetto <u>Www.Holocaustresearchproject.Org</u>". Holocaustresearchproject.org. N.p., 2016. Web. 3 Aug. 2016.

Explain how the partisans were in many ways like the rescuers.

LIBERATION

Hitler and the Nazis were loosing the war. In a few days the war would be over. The Allies began going into the countries the Nazis had taken over. The people living there were **liberated**. The Allies were shocked when they came upon the horrible camps and the gas chambers where so many died.

The starving Jews that were still alive saw these soldiers as **saviors**. Weak and sick, the Jews were put in hospitals to get well. They were given clean clothes, beds, food, and freedom. Yet, their relief at being saved was saddened by their memories of so many of their Jewish friends and family who had perished in the gas chambers.



"In The Liberated Camps â€" Holocaust Teacher Resource Center". Holocaust-trc.org. N.p., 2016. Web. 3 Aug.

The survivors of the Holocaust were happy and sad at the same time. Can you think of time when you were happy and sad at the same time? Tell about it.

NUREMBERG

After the war, those responsible for the crimes of the Holocaust were brought to trial. **Nuremberg**, Germany was chosen as the place for the trial. Hitler was not there. He chose to kill himself rather than go to trial for the evil he had done. Some of the Nazis fled the country before the trial to hide in places far away. But many Nazis stood trial and were found guilty. The **testimony** of hundreds of witnesses, many of them Holocaust survivors, was heard all over the world.



"What Were The Nuremberg Trials? - The Holocaust Explained Website".

Theholocaustexplained.org. N.p., 2016. Web. 3 Aug. 2016.

Hitler and the Nazis killed 6 million Jews. That number is so enormous that it is hard to imagine. In the end, Hitler never stood trial because he chose to end his life. Why do you think he did that instead of going to trial?

SURVIVORS

It was hard for the survivors of the Holocaust to return to life. Their families were no more. Many survivors lost every single family member. When they returned to the houses they once lived in they found them looted or other people living in them.

Many ended up in **displaced persons camps**, seeking to live in other countries. Many came to the United States. Many went to Palestine, which eventually became the Jewish homeland, **Israel**. The Jews would have to start life over in new places. But ...they were alive.



The survivors of the Holocaust took the experience of that horrible time and became loving and strong individuals. They had learned to value life and to honor all people, no matter what they look like or what they believe. Why do you think that hard times often make people more caring?

REMEMBER

- 1. Remember: the Holocaust targeted a certain people, the Jews. It did not value the preciousness of all human life. Goodness, and even God were not valued either.
- 2. Remember: racism, hate, antisemitism, and prejudice can lead to horrible places.
- 3. Remember: Hitler does not deserve our attention or anyone else's either.
- 4. Remember: take nothing for granted.
- 5. Remember: there were people who risked everything to help others.

- 6. Remember: care for one another.
- 7. Remember: evil was everywhere in the Holocaust, but also there was courage and helping others.



"Van Thyn Series Commemorates The Holocaust". Centenary.edu. N.p., 2016. Web. 3 Aug. 2016.