Global Conflict
Pre-Visit Lesson

Grades: 7th - 12th grade
Class Time Needed: 45 minutes

Big Idea
Students will understand the basics of how the American Civil War, World War I and World War II changed the world.

Maryland Curriculum Standards

Social Studies Framework

• (7th grade): Analyze major sources of tension, cooperation, and conflict in the world and the efforts that have been made to address them.

• Essential Question (High School): How did involvement in a global conflict change America?

Materials Needed

• Internet access
• Research links (in Teacher Resources Section)
• Presentation visual

Teacher Resources

Research Materials for Students -
American Civil War:
https://www.nationalgeographic.org/topics/resource-library-civil-war/?q=&page=1&per_page=25
https://www.nationalgeographic.org/photo/union-confederacy/
https://www.nationalgeographic.org/maps/african-american-population-maps/
https://youtu.be/nW22pYH9Gf8
Lesson Procedure

Introduction:
Discuss what students already know about the American Civil War, World War I and World War II. Use a visual (dry erase board, powerpoint, poster, etc) to record prior knowledge.

Direct Instruction (Student Activity):
Jigsaw Activity: Students will break into pairs/groups to research one of the topics using a video or website article provided. Students are responsible for writing down key information and presenting it to the other students studying the same war as them. All students studying the same war will gather to share information and present a summary of what they learned to the entire class.

Examples of what to focus on when researching: What were the causes of the war? Who was involved in the war? How long did the war last? How did this war affect the United States?

Conclusion:
Each of the three groups presents their information by adding to the prior knowledge visual from the beginning of the lesson. Encourage students to draw connections and conclusions between the three conflicts and the present day society they live in.