

THE NAZI OLYMPICS Berlin 1936 – Pre-trip Activities

Teacher Instructions

Image Analysis

1. Pull the 8 image cards from your USHMM teacher packet.
2. Assign students to 8 small groups to analyze the images using the analysis sheet in the packet.
3. Allow 10 minutes for the groups to analyze their card.
4. Each group should complete their sheet and take it with them to the field trip.
5. In the exhibit ask each group to find their image and point it out to the larger group when they reach that point in the exhibit. The students in the group are then responsible for explaining the image to the rest of the class in the context of the exhibit.
6. Upon returning to the classroom, each group should edit their analysis sheet to reflect the new knowledge they gained about the image from the exhibit.

Marzahn and the Roma (Gypsy) Experience

1. Students should research the experience of Roma in the Holocaust using the following site:
http://www.ushmm.org/education/resource/roma/roma.php?menu=/export/home/www/doc_root/education/foreducators/include/menu.txt&bgcolor=CD9544.
Questions to consider include why this group was targeted and what made their Holocaust experience unique?
2. In the exhibit ask each student to locate the Roma athlete Johann Trollman. They should each summarize his experience in a paragraph using their own words.

Jesse Owens

1. Have students read about Jesse Owens at <http://www.jesseowensmuseum.org> and consider the following questions:
 - a. What obstacles did Jesse have to overcome in his early life in Alabama?
 - b. How did his many athletic accomplishments affect his status as a black man in America?
2. *“When I came back to my native country, after all the stories about Hitler, I couldn't ride in the front of the bus. I had to go to the back door. I couldn't live where I wanted. I wasn't invited to shake hands with Hitler, but I wasn't invited to the White House to shake hands with the President, either.”*

Journal entry prior to exhibit visit:

- a. Have students react to the above quote from Jesse Owens considering what they know or believe about American racism and U.S. history.

Journal entry after exhibit visit:

Have students respond to the following questions based on what they learned in the exhibit:

- a. What reasons did African-American athletes and journalists give for opposing a boycott of the 1936 Olympics?
- b. African-American athletes wanted to compete in the 1936 Olympics hoping that by performing well they would promote black pride in America. Given the quote above, do you believe they were successful in changing American attitudes toward African-Americans?