

“A Date Which Will Live in Infamy”
Pearl Harbor
December 7, 1941



Objective: To identify the attack on Pearl Harbor as a turning point in World War II and to explain its effect on the United States (SC Standard 7-5.5)

The December 7, 1941 Japanese raid on Pearl Harbor was one of the great defining moments in history. A single carefully-planned and well-executed stroke removed the United States Navy's battleship force as a possible threat to the Japanese Empire's southward expansion. America, unprepared and now considerably weakened, was abruptly brought into the Second World War as a full combatant.

In this learning station you will learn more about the day the Japanese launched an unexpected Sunday morning raid on the American naval base at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

Your group should complete the following:

1. Explore the following website to gather facts about the attack on Pearl Harbor:
<http://www.history.navy.mil/photos/events/wwii-pac/pearlhbr/pearlhbr.htm>
2. Listen to President Franklin D. Roosevelt's address to the nation (December 8, 1941) after the attack on Pearl Harbor at the following URL:
<http://www.umkc.edu/lib/spec-col/ww2/PearlHarbor/fdr-speech.htm>
3. Imagine that you are an American citizen just hearing the news of Pearl Harbor. Write a journal entry describing how you are feeling and what you think this event means for the nation. Include your feelings about the Presidential address.