

## *Exploring the Holocaust Through Picture Books*

Objective: To examine the Holocaust and its effect on European society (SC Standard 8-5.6)

**Holocaust**, the almost complete destruction of Jews in Europe by Nazi Germany and its collaborators during World War II (1939-1945). The leadership of Germany's Nazi Party ordered the extermination of 5.6 million to 5.9 million Jews. Jews often refer to the Holocaust as *Shoah* (from the Hebrew word for "catastrophe" or "total destruction"). The word *holocaust* derives from the Greek *holo* (whole) and *caustos* (burned) and originally referred to a burnt offering, or a religious sacrifice that is totally consumed by fire.

The Holocaust was the worst genocide in history. Those who carried it out methodically created the means to efficiently round up and kill millions of people. The Holocaust led to the establishment of international laws against human rights violations.

In this learning station, you will explore the Holocaust using picture books about the Holocaust. With your group, please complete the following:

1. Browse the selection of picture books and choose one to read. Each group member should choose a book individually.
2. In response to the book, complete the Picture Book Response Sheet.

