

**South Carolina Academic Standards fulfilled by**  
**The Mighty Eighth Museum Tour**

**Project/Activity and Informational Books** (Available in the Gift Shop and through the Museum on-line store)

Bell-Rehwoldt, Sheri, *Great World War II Projects*. White River Junction, Vermont: Nomad Press, 2006

Panchyk, Richard, *World War II for Kids*. Chicago, Illinois: Chicago Review Press, Inc., 2002

*Honoring the American Past: The Stories of America's World War II Veterans*. Upper Saddle River, New Jersey: Pearson Education, Inc: Prentice Hall, 2003

Miller, Donald, *Masters of the Air: America's Bomber Boys Who Fought The Air War Against Nazi Germany*. New York, New York: Simon and Schuster, 2006

**Fifth grade:**

Standard 5-4: The Student will demonstrate an understanding of the economic boom and bust in America of the 1920's and 1930's, its resultant political instability, and the subsequent worldwide response. Specifically 5-4.4, 5-4.5, 5-4.6, 5-4.7

Standard 5-5: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the social, economic, and political events that influenced the United States during the Cold War era. Specifically 5-5.1, 5-5.2, 5-5.3

**Seventh Grade:**

Standard 7-5: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the causes and effects of world conflicts in the early twentieth century. All indicators taught.

**Eighth Grade:**

Standard 8-6: The student will demonstrate an understanding of South Carolina's development during the early twentieth century. Specifically 8-6.2

Standard 8-7: The student will demonstrate an understanding of South Carolina's economic revitalization during World War II and the latter twentieth century. Specifically 8-7.1

**High School-**

**United States History and the Constitution:**

Standard USHC-6: The student will demonstrate an understanding of foreign developments that contributed to the United States' emergence as a world power in the twentieth century. Specifically USHC-6.1 and USHC-6.4

Standard USHC-8: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the impact of World War II on United States' foreign and domestic policies. All indicators taught.

**Global Studies:**

Standard GS-5: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the effects of economic, geographic, and political interactions that took place throughout the world during the early twentieth century. Specifically GS-5.1 through GS-5.6

**United States Government:**

Standard USG-3: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the continuing role of the United States Constitution in the defining and shaping of American government and society. Specifically USG-3.1 and USG-3.4

Standard USG-4: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the United States' relations with other nation-states and its role in world affairs

Standard USG-5: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the concept of personal and civic rights and responsibilities and the role of the citizen in American democracy.

## **EXPLORING THE EXHIBITS: THE HERITAGE OF VALUES TOUR**

- **Prelude to War (#1):** World War I left Europe exhausted and the people jaded and apathetic. Even the victors, France and England, were on the verge of economic ruin after the war, while defeated Germany suffered immensely. During the 1920s the National Socialist (Nazi) Party exploited the situation with bitter, often violent campaigning, finally coming to power when Adolf Hitler was appointed Chancellor on January 30, 1933. The German government quickly rearmed: army, navy and a new air force, all in defiance of the Treaty of Versailles restricting German armed forces. German military expansion rapidly added Austria (March 1938) and the German-inhabited area of Czechoslovakia (September 1938). Finally, on September 1, 1939, Hitler attacked Poland. World War II began as France and Britain tried to aid Poland. Poland was defeated within four weeks and divided between Germany and the Soviet Union. In the spring of 1940, Germany conquered Denmark and Norway and then turned on France, Belgium, and Holland, defeating them with equal success.
- **Battle of Britain (#2):** Britain fought on alone mounting a successful air defense against German bombers and submarines. Britain's valiant efforts are portrayed through artifacts, photographs, and original film footage.
- **The Darkest Hour (#3):** In the fall of 1940, Hitler turned eastward, defeated Yugoslavia and Greece, and then attacked the Soviet Union. At this time he began implementing his plans for the Holocaust. Meanwhile, the Japanese continued their expansionist policy in the Pacific, culminating in the December 7, 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor. This event galvanized American opinion and brought the United States into the conflict.

- **The Mission Experience (#4):** In this unique three part multi-media exhibit, with the guidance of volunteer military veterans, students attend a pre-flight briefing, view flight line preparations, and experience a virtual B-17 mission over Germany in the special effects theater.
- **The History of the Eighth (#5):** These exhibits explore the history of the Eighth Fighter Command, the life of American servicemen in Britain, and key missions of the Eighth.
- **Combat Rotunda (#7):** Here you will find the Museum's collection of World War II aircraft, Flight of Discovery interactive exhibit, and exhibits on subjects from African Americans in Aviation to Photo Reconnaissance. This area includes a PT-17 Stearman and a P-51 Mustang. Our newest addition, a B-17 Flying Fortress is currently being restored while on display. The top turret of a B-17 bomber and a cutaway of a fuselage section (#9) allow visitors to see the conditions and weapons of a waist gunner in the Eighth Air Force.
- **Escape and Evasion House (#9):** Thousands of European civilians risked their lives to protect downed Allied servicemen. Hear the stories of these civilians and of the Americans they helped save. No exact numbers are known, but some 6,000 Allied airmen evaded German captivity after being shot down over enemy territory.
- **Prisoner of War (#11):** The struggles of airmen in a Stalag-Luft camp are explained through a life-size diorama, videos, and photographs with text. The average prisoner of war faced the cold, the lack of adequate food and enforced inactivity with a determination to survive the ordeal. Some even attempted to escape. Digging secret tunnels, making fake identity papers and uniforms occupied groups of prisoners. At the risk of severe penalty, many prisoners tried to escape, some forfeiting their lives in the process. Some 28,000 Eighth Air Force airmen ended up as prisoners of war.
- **Honoring the Eighth (#10):** The Honoring the Eighth Gallery teaches students character traits from the example of actual experiences of Eighth Air Force Veterans on special Character Education panels. These panels are in addition to hundreds of artifacts from World War II, including an actual B-17 nose section decorated with original nose art.
- **The Lights Come on Again (#12):** World War II ended in 1945 with allied victory first in Europe over Germany on May 8 and then in the Pacific against Japan on September 2. The climatic end is explored in this gallery.
- **Post World War II (#14):** The Eighth continued to serve valiantly following World War II. Artifacts in this area include a B-52 vertical stabilizer (top half), a Quail Decoy Missile and a MIG 21 cockpit section. Through photographs, artifacts and two videos, the essential role that the Eighth played in the major conflicts of the twentieth century is revealed.