World War II Webquest

The purpose of this webquest is to help you get a feel for World War. The war took place in two arenas, or theaters, the Pacific with Japan, and Europe with Germany. This webquest does not attempt to sugar-coat what happened during this war. Some of the readings and pictures can be disturbing. If they bother you, just answer the question and move on. The point is that this was a war where millions of people were injured or killed. There isn't a way to really soften the realities of war.

To navigate through the webquest, you may need to use the back and forward arrows at the upper left hand side of your screen.

1. Read about the after-effects of World War I and the Treaty of Versailles
   http://www.historylearningsite.co.uk/treaty_of_versailles.htm
   This website has stats about how many people were killed, who the Big Three were, and the four areas of the Treaty. Write 5 important facts from this site.

2. Go to the following site and scroll through the timeline.
   http://www.historyplace.com/worldwar2/timeline/ww2time.htm#stpaul
   A. What year did Adolph Hitler become the leader of the National Socialist Nazi Party? (Hint - look in the 1920's)
   B. Go to 1925. Click on Mein Kampf. What does Mein Kampf mean? (Third or fourth paragraph)
   C. What is an Aryan, according to Hitler? (Around the fourth paragraph)
   D. Look at the bottom of the article, when did this book become hugely popular? To answer this, you have to read the article, then go back to the timeline to find out when Hitler became Chancellor.
   E. What year did the Nazis hold a book burning? List some authors whose works were destroyed.
   F. Scroll down to 1941. Look at December. What happened on Dec. 8 and Dec. 11?
   G. Scroll to the very end. Click on the Statistics of World War II. Which country had the most fatalities? How many countries were involved with World War II?

3. Now go to http://www.besthistorysites.net/WWII.shtml
   A. Scroll down until you see a link titled Korematsu v. United States Click on that and then click on “The Interment Camps”. Where were the Internment camps in Arizona located?
   B. Define Issei and Nisei

4. Go to http://www.ushmm.org/museum/exhibit/online/bookburning and read through this site. When you are done exploring write five facts about Nazi book burning.
5. Go to the following website:  http://www.lclark.edu/~history/HIROSHIMA/ Click on The Gallery. Go to collection 3. Hiroshima Collection. Click on pictures that interest you, esp. #2 and # 18. Read the captions under the pictures. Explain your thoughts on how the Japanese must have felt immediately after the Atomic Bomb was dropped on them.

6. **Navajo code talkers.**
http://www.infoplease.com/spot/aihmcode1.html This site has information about the Navajo code talkers. Who came up with the idea to use Navajo? Why? Why were the code talkers heroes?

Just an interesting site.
http://www.history.navy.mil/FAQs/faq61-2.htm This website has a code talker dictionary. If you are interested in how the code worked, click on this site.

7. **Concentration camps.**
A. http://history1900s.about.com/library/holocaust/blmap.htm This site has a map of all the concentration and extermination camps. What was the camp to the furthest point north?

** ** http://fcit.usf.edu/holocaust/timeline/camps.htm The site has a lot of links and photos of the camps. Some are very disturbing and sad.
B. http://www.mtsu.edu/~baustin/holocamp.html You will find more information about the camps at this site. There is a chart of how many were killed at each camp and how. Which two camps had the highest rate of deaths? Did you locate them on the map?

B. http://history1900s.about.com/library/holocaust/blchart.htm This chart shows all the camps, concentration and extermination. What was the difference? How many did the U.S. shut down?

8. **D-Day**  http://news.bbc.co.uk/cbbcnews/hi/find_out/guides/world/d-day_/newsid_3754000/3754731.stm What was D-Day? Why was it called D-Day (use the link)?

9. **Iwo Jima/ Okinawa Hiroshima and Nagasaki**

Go the following link and watch the video. (You have to suffer through a commercial first.)

http://www.history.com/media.do?action=clip&id=gahq_aw_teri_garr_broadband What is your response?