

Kindertransport

Purpose:

Students will explore the stories of the children who were saved by allies from the Holocaust on the Kindertransport. Students will learn about the people who helped to make the Kindertransport program successful in saving thousands of Jewish child refugees during WWII. They will learn about the success through the eyes of the children and of those adults who housed them.

Background Content:

[Kindertransport, 1938-1940](#)

Resources:

[Rescuing the Children](#)

[USHMM Kindertransport\(Overview\)](#)

[Oral History-Kindertransport USHMM](#)

[Preparing for the Kindertransport-Facing History](#)

[Journey to Safety-Memories of the Kindertransport](#)

[WH News article about Ivan Backer](#)

[Interview with Ivan Backer-Kindertransport](#)

[60 Minutes-Nicholas Winton](#)

[Nicholas Winton and the Rescue of Children \(teacher reference\)](#)

[The British Schindler Sir Nicholas Winton and the Kindertransport\(teacher reference\)](#)

[Kindertransport Memory Quilt\(teacher reference\)](#)

[Six Word Memoirs](#)

Classroom Setup:

Students will need computers with access to the internet, poster paper for brainstorming questions, anchor charts and their journals to write reflections on this lesson.

Part I. Journey of Children.

Read:[Journey to Safety-Memories of the Kindertransport \(overview of the program\)](#)

Listen: to the following oral histories. Have students fill in the chart below as they listen.

[Norbert Wollheim in charge of organizing the Kindertransport](#)

[Alice Masters describes being part of with 2 sisters and 2 friends Kindertransport](#)

[Vera Gissing Preparing for the Kindertransport](#)

[Interview with Ivan Backer: Kindertransport from Czechoslovakia \(Hartford Ct reside](#)

Child	Age in 1938	Country of Origin	Details of Why They Left	Impact on Their Lives
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Norbert Wollheim				
Alice Masters				
Ivan Backer				
Vera Gissing				

Have students reflect on the following questions in their journals:

- How could/would a parent be able to make such a difficult decision?
- What would be the most difficult part of the journey and the arrival in Britain?
- Why might the experiences differ to those on the kindertransport?

Activity

Have students work in groups to create a [Six Word Memoir](#) about the Kindertransport. Have each group present their Six words and discuss how they choose each word.

Part II The Rescuers

Student view the 60 Minutes video on [Nicholas Winton](#) on saving children from the Holocaust. Have students record their questions and reflections in their journal:

- Why did Winton get involved?
- Look up the definition of courageous. Would you consider Winton courageous? Explain.
- Reflect on the capacity of one man (or small group of people) to make such a difference in the lives of hundreds of people (and thousands of descendants)

Assessment:

What lessons do you think we can learn from the story of the Kindertransport?