

Let's Visit Pearl Harbor National Memorial | Lesson Plan

What is the history and significance of the Pearl Harbor National Memorial?

Students will understand the historical significance of the Pearl Harbor National Memorial, recognizing the important values of heroism, bravery, and coming together amidst a crisis.

Learning Objectives:

- Recall key facts about the Pearl Harbor National Memorial, including its location and historical significance.
- Reflect on the importance of the Pearl Harbor National Memorial and share personal connections to military service.
- Correctly order the sequence of events of a story.
- Identify key vocabulary related to *Otto's Tales: Let's Visit Pearl Harbor National Memorial*.

Key Vocabulary:

- **Replica:** A copy or model of something characterized by much attention to detail.
- **Pearl Harbor:** The site of a U.S. naval base in Hawaii, just west of Honolulu. It was the target of a surprise military attack by Japanese forces on December 7, 1941, which led to America's involvement in World War II.
- **Oahu:** One of eight major islands in Hawaii and home to Honolulu, the state capital.
- **Pearl Harbor National Memorial:** A national memorial in Honolulu, Hawaii, that commemorates the events of the attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941.
- **World War II:** A war that involved many of the world's countries from 1939 to 1945.

Educational Standards: CCRA.R.1, CCRA.R.2, CCRA.R.7, CCRA.SL.1, CCRA.SL.2, CCRA.W.2, CCRA.W.9, CCRA.L.4

Academic Subject Areas: America, American Values, History

What You'll Need

- Video: *Otto's Tales: Let's Visit Pearl Harbor National Memorial* (Watch [Here](#))
- Book (Optional): *Otto's Tales: Let's Visit Pearl Harbor National Memorial* (Purchase [Here](#))
- Worksheet: *Otto's Tales: Let's Visit Pearl Harbor National Memorial* (Click [Here](#))

Lesson Plan (45 mins.)

Warm-Up: (10 mins.)

1. Start by showing students a simple image or a toy model of a memorial, such as the one depicted in the story.
2. Ask students what they think a memorial is and why it might be important.



3. Introduce the Pearl Harbor National Memorial as a solemn place that commemorates the tragic sinking of a ship where over 1,000 brave crew members lost their lives on December 7, 1941. Go over key vocabulary and have students listen to it as they watch the video.

Watch and Discuss: (20 mins.)

1. Show the video *Otto's Tales: Let's Visit Pearl Harbor National Memorial* to the class.
2. Pause at key moments to explain vocabulary words and check for understanding.
3. After the video, discuss the story.
 - What action prompted Otto and Smidge to travel to Hawaii?
 - What was Dennis working on?
 - What special location did Otto and Smidge land at?
 - Who explained the importance of the Pearl Harbor National Memorial to Otto and Smidge?
 - What is different about this memorial? Where is the ship located? Why is there oil floating on the water?
 - Who offers to help Otto and Smidge find the missing ship piece for Dennis's model?
 - What important action did Smidge take when she returned home?
 - How does the story end?

Wrap-Up: (10 mins.)

1. Give students a copy of the *Otto's Tales: Let's Visit Pearl Harbor National Memorial* Worksheet. Ask them to place the sequence of events from the story in order by numbering each picture. As a further exercise in understanding, have them describe to a partner what is taking place in each picture.
2. Correct the worksheets together as a class and consider collecting them as a formative assessment.
3. End the lesson by asking students to share their thoughts on the importance of the Pearl Harbor National Memorial. Perhaps some students have family members who have dedicated their lives to the service and protection of America; this is a great time to allow them to talk about their loved ones.

Don't have time for the complete lesson? Quick Activity (15-20 mins.)

For a quick lesson, show the video and have a discussion about the importance of the Pearl Harbor National Memorial.