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HVL LESSON TITLE:

SURVIVING THE ENEMY

DEVELOPED BY: ERIN COGGINS

SURVIVING THE ENEMY

GUIDING QUESTION:

Besides a lethal enemy, what
other hardships did the Bataan
Death March POW's face?

OVERVIEW:

World War II veteran Otis Branon faced a savage enemy in Japanese soldiers while fighting in the Philippines. Once the Japanese took control of the Philippines in 1942, they captured American and Filipino prisoners of war. One of the most brutal moves made by the Japanese in WWII was the Bataan Death March.



SUBJECT(S):
Science/Health Education



WWII VETERAN(S):
Otis Branon



DURATION:
60 minutes

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“We were trying to save them (Japanese people) and they were trying to destroy themselves.”

WWII Veteran Otis Branon

OVERVIEW:

World War II veteran Otis Branon faced a savage enemy in Japanese soldiers while fighting in the Philippines. Once the Japanese took control of the Philippines in 1942, they captured American and Filipino prisoners of war. One of the most brutal moves made by the Japanese in WWII was the Bataan Death March.

HISTORICAL CONTEXT:

When General Jonathan Mayhew Wainwright surrendered American troops to the Japanese in April 1942, the enemy set out to humiliate the 78,00 American and Filipino troops in a 65-mile march from the Bataan peninsula to Camp O'Donnell in San Fernando.

Deprived of food, water, rest and having been already afflicted with malnutrition and disease, an estimated 17,000 men perished in the march.

OBJECTIVES:

At the conclusion of this lesson, students will be able to

- Analyze a map for information.
- Recognize the symptoms and dangers of jungle diseases to WWII soldiers.

STANDARDS:

AL: Science: 7 Human Anatomy
Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information describing the immune system.

AL: 1:4 Health Education
Study diseases and propose ways to prevent, reduce, and treat diseases and injuries.

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MATERIALS & DOCUMENTS

[Memoirs of WWII-Otis Branon Video](#)

[Map of the Philippines \(Doc A\)](#)

[Bataan Death March Video](#)

[Jungle Diseases Research Activity \(Doc B\)](#)

[Computer Access](#)

PROCEDURES

ACTIVITY 01

- Show the Memoirs of WWII-Otis Branon Video.
- Ask students to jot down some words that describe the Japanese enemy, Mr. Branon refers to in the video.
- After the video, ask students to share the words they wrote down. Tell students that as early as 1942, the Japanese showed their brutality towards American soldiers.

ACTIVITY 02

- Distribute a copy of the Map of the Philippines (Doc A) and project the map. Have students follow along in completing the map activity as the teacher models it to the class.
- Ask students, what hardships do they think the POW's endured along the 65 mile march. NOTE: Expect answers like heat, brutality, lack of supplies.
- Inform students that on top of brutality, tropical weather, and lack of water and food, these soldiers were also suffering from several common jungle diseases.

- To reiterate the tragedy of the Bataan Death March, show the Bataan Death March Video.

ACTIVITY 03

- Distribute the Jungle Diseases Research Activity (Doc B). Read the directions aloud with the students. NOTE: Students can work on the research individually or in pairs.

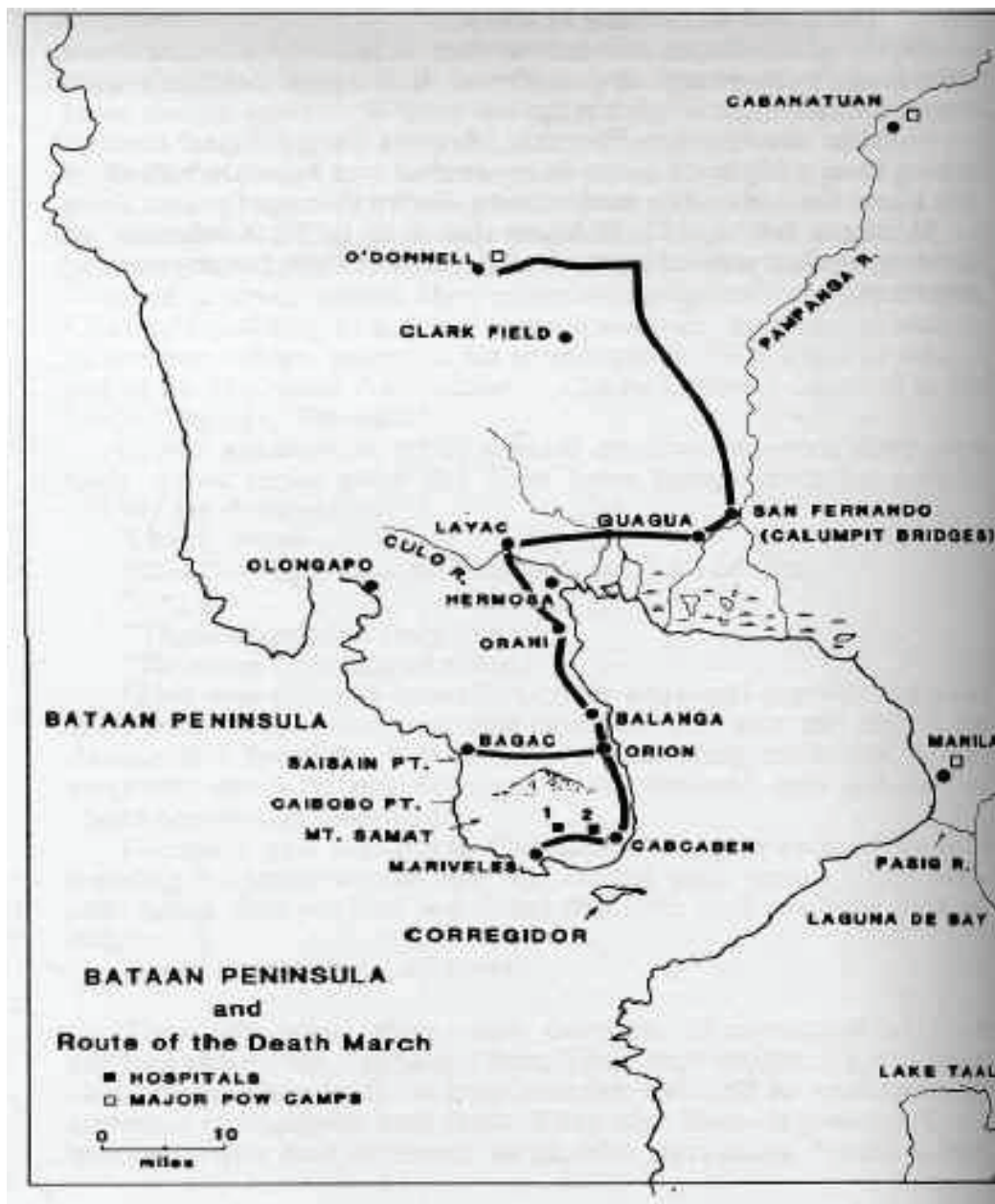
METHODS FOR EXTENSION

- Extend the research to other wars, including Vietnam or to more recent ones in the Middle East.

SURVIVING THE ENEMY

MAP OF THE PHILIPPINES

DOC A



[LINK](#) to MAP

SURVIVING THE ENEMY

MAP ACTIVITY

DOC A



1. Circle Corregidor.
2. Circle Camp O'Donnell.
3. Using the key, calculate the mileage from Corregidor to Camp O'Donnell.
4. How many hospitals did the soldiers pass on their way to Camp O'Donnell?
5. What type of climate do you think the soldiers marched in?
6. How would that climate increase health issues on the soldiers?

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JUNGLE DISEASES RESEARCH ACTIVITY



DIRECTIONS: You will research the symptoms of the disease, the treatment used in WWII, the impact the disease would have on soldiers who had to march 65 miles in the heat without food and water, and what the treatment is today.

DISEASE	SYMPTOMS	TREATMENT THEN	IMPACT	TREATMENT NOW
Malaria				
Dysentery				
Typhoid				
Beri-Beri				
Skin Ulcers				
Dehydration/ Malnourished				