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Pearl Harbor

Junior Division

Individual Website

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Pearl Harbor was a turning point in history by urging the United States (U.S.) to join

World War II. This event occurred on December 7th, 1941, at Pearl Harbor ("Today in

History…"). Pearl Harbor was the location at which the Japanese forces led a surprise attack,

bombing the U.S. naval base. This event impacted the U.S. involvement in the war and saw an

enormous loss of life ("Pearl Harbor: Attack, ..."). Multiple countries were involved in the

bombing of Pearl Harbor, including Japan, the U.S., and Great Britain ("How Pearl Harbor…").

When Pearl Harbor was bombed, thousands of people were killed and over 1,000 were injured,

twenty American ships were destroyed, and 300 airplanes were attacked and taken down ("Pearl

Harbor: Attack, ..."). Pearl Harbor influenced the end of isolationism the U.S. had from the rest

of the world (""How Pearl Harbor…"). The attack on Pearl Harbor was important because it

made the U.S. join the war which then turned the tides and helped the Allied side win the war

("How Pearl Harbor ...").

I chose my topic through a long process of brainstorming and considering how interesting

each topic was. I started with three or four topics to choose from and started to narrow it down to

Pearl Harbor, The Boston Tea Party and Nine-Eleven. Pearl Harbor was a topic I had some

knowledge on to begin with, but I wanted to learn more. I was focused on learning about why

Japan bombed the U.S. in the first place. I found it interesting that the U.S. had a warning before the bomb and that they didn't prepare ("Today in History…").

I started by googling basic information, the year, the place, and the people involved. Then I went on to primary sources, the Library of Congress "Today in History" and President Roosevelt's "Day of Infamy" speech. I found the rest of my information in secondary sources including History.com and PearlHarbor.org. With the information that I had I conducted a thesis about the history day topic, Turning Points in History.

For my website I started by looking at old projects, specifically at how everything was ordered and designed. I used a black and white color scheme with a few colored pictures and text. I took the paragraphs directly from my research paper and found interesting photographs to go with the concept. I put in the order it is shown in the examples and choose which pages had background pictures, which had side pictures, and which had no pictures at all. Finally, I put it all together and created my full website.