

Life on the Homefront Responsibilities

Welcome, to the 1940s. The U.S. has entered World War II after the attack on Pearl Harbor. Many people knew people who were overseas fighting in the war. You are responsible for researching at least five areas from the Homefront that are addressed in the questions below. Make sure that your virtual museum addresses (answers and provides accurate information) on the following questions:

1. When the U.S. entered the war, life changed. What could people do to help at home?
2. What sacrifices did people make for their country and family?
3. What was life like for Americans during this turbulent time in history?
4. **How did women contribute to the war effort? How do you think people felt about women in the workforce?**
5. What did women do for their families and for their country?
6. How did children/teenagers contribute to the war effort?
7. **How did the lives of young people in the 1940s compare to your life today?**
8. What sacrifices did Japanese-Americans make after the attack on Pearl Harbor?
9. What were blackouts, and why were they implemented?
10. Letters were a way families could keep in touch with family members overseas. You must read two [letters](#) written by U.S. Soldiers, but you may look at more if you wish. **What do these letters tell you about life at home (and at war) during the 1940s?**
11. During the war, women worked in factories, volunteered, etc. Because most of the men were overseas, women took on jobs typically considered only for men. Many women went from being homemakers to being factory workers. Browse [Rosie the Riveter's website](#). First, look at the History (click on History). Next, click on Women's Stories and read about a couple. Finally, click on Women's Photos. **How did women contribute to the war effort? How do you think people felt about women in the workforce?**
12. In addition to working, women had to take care of their families (sometimes alone). During WWII, food and clothes were rationed. Read about [rationing](#) and [victory gardens](#). Because of food rationing, mothers (and civilians in general) had to come up with different meals to feed their families. Here are some recipes that might have been used on the homefront. Here is a little something extra you might find funny about women's [nylon stockings](#) that were rationed during WWII. **What was rationing, and why was it implemented? What were the effects of rationing?**
13. **How did young people contribute to the war effort?**
14. You need to see where you and your family might have lived. While [touring the house](#), you will find more information about how young people contributed to the war effort. Be sure to look at the living room AND the kitchen and click on all of the colored pictures to read about them. **How does this house compare to your house today? Think of the similarities and differences.**