



Survivor: Allan Hall, Krakow, Poland

Camp: Ghettos, Hidden

Age: 4

SUMMARY: *Allan Hall had a very happy childhood. His grandmother and grandfather and aunt doted over him. They would vacation at the seashore and in Carpathian Mountains. He felt as a privileged child. The family was not religious. Don't ever recall going to synagogue except once or twice to an Orthodox synagogue. Religion was not a part of their lives. Used to play with a girl from the building for the longest time. As the war began her mother used to look at him strange and finally, one day, told him to get out of her apartment, "dirty Jew." Mother said they'd find her other playmates. His father was educated in Vienna and spoke excellent German said that they must leave ASAP. Mother felt there was nothing to worry about. Father grabbed Allan and dragged him out of the door and chose to leave the family and go to Eastern Poland and walked for about 220 miles without any provisions. They could see the Polish army fighting the Germans. They reached a river and since no one could swim it was an obstacle. What they didn't know was that the river was the dividing line between German occupied and Russian occupied Poland. They crossed the river via ferry and lived peacefully on the Russian side in Lvov. Stayed with grandmother there and kept writing to family but no response and no letters came back. As soon as the Germans entered Lvov they went into "low-profile." He was never in the street – always in the apartment. His parents arranged for a safe-house in the country. They hired a train conductor to take Allan to the safe-house. They saw a truck coming down the street and tried to walk the other way, but another truck was coming and Allan was grabbed into the truck full of children. They were off-loaded into a closed off area. His father came to try and get him. Spoke to the commandant and then walked away without even looking back. Dad came back later and spoke to Nazi, Nazi walked away and Dad motioned for him to come and Allan did. Staying in the ghetto was too dangerous. Dad was involved in theater in the ghetto and they hid in the crawl space between the ceiling and the roof for the longest time and then moved to a basement room. His Dad socialized with a Nazi who complained about the rent he was paying for an empty office in a building of German military in Warsaw. His father took over the space. He and his mother hid in the office storage closet and lived there for 2 years. Not once did anyone every look in the storage closet. The Warsaw uprising (8/1/1944) led for them to leave the closet and go to the basement of the building. His brother was born in the basement at 2 lbs. and mother had no milk for him. Germans regained control after the uprising and they were going to demolish the entire city. Poles were leaving with IDs being checked. They had no IDs and couldn't leave especially with a newly born infant. They discussed infanticide and mother said "we all live or none of us live." Father was able to get them to a safe house outside of Warsaw. After a few months the shooting had stopped and the noise settled to a hush and the Germans were gone. His father was trying to get involved with insurance in Soviet Poland and he had been a high official for the past year after the war, but one morning the Soviet police came and arrested him. After several weeks in prison he was sentenced to Siberia without a trial. Mother knew that he would try and escape so she tried to take the family to British held Mandatory Palestine so as not to be rounded up and sent to Siberia with him. They ran away and hid somewhere and brother was very sick, so they couldn't leave. Children were kept separate from parents. Finally, they were reunited and went to Paris. Parents had a diplomatic passport so they were able to get to London to get a flight to NY. Feb 11, 1947 they were able to fly to New York and then asked for asylum and were granted it. After he graduated Beach High they became US citizens.*

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL MIAMI BEACH SURVIVOR TESTIMONY LESSON PLAN

Allan Hall: "What is happening today is similar to what happened in the 1920's and 30's. We're in an awful time and seem to have no compassion for human beings. Germany was the most sophisticated country in Europe. Look what happened there, it could happen here – protect yourself!"

Objectives	FL State Standards Correlations
Estimated time of the Lesson: Film 24 min. lesson 25 min. Total 49 minutes	SUBJECT: SOCIAL STUDIES Strand: SS.912.W World History
1. Students will be able to identify elements of the Holocaust by listening to the account of a survivor of the Holocaust.	Standard 1: SS.912.W1: Utilize historical inquiry skills and analytical procedures.
2. Students will identify the location of the various places that the Survivor mentions in his account.	Strand: SS.912.G: Geography Standard 2: SS.912. G.2: Understand physical and cultural characteristics of places
3. Students will recognize the suffering the survivor had to endure by being attentive to his account.	Strand: .SS.912.S Sociology Standard 2: SS.912. S.2 Culture /Examining the influence on the individual and the way cultural transmission is accomplished
4. Students will identify with the survivor's childhood age during the beginning of the onslaught of the Nazis.	
5. Students will define the idea that Eli Wiesel meant when he said, "Listening to a witness, makes you a witness."	
MATERIALS:	
Map of Europe that includes Poland, France, England, Russia (Siberia) DVD Player, screen	
SUGGESTED PROCEDURES	
1. Using a map of Europe teacher asks students to identify where Poland is featuring cities of Krakow, Lvov and Warsaw, Siberia	Strand: SS.912.G: Geography Standard 1: SS.912G.1 Understand how to use maps and other geographic representations tools and technology to report information.
2. Teacher helps students find other locations that Survivor will mention: Paris, London, NYC	
3. Teacher prepares students for viewing by introducing the Survivor and having the students define the term <i>Survivor</i> .	Subject: ELA Strand: LAFS.910.RI: Reading Standards for Informational Text
4. Teacher introduces vocabulary that the Survivor will use and ascertains that all students are familiar with the places and words: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Safe-house b. infanticide 	Cluster 2 LAFS.910.RI.2: Craft & Structure Benchmark: LAFS.910.RI.2.4 Determine the meaning of words & phrases as they are used in a text, including figuration, connotation and technical meanings; analyze the connotation's impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone.

5. Students view Video of Survivor Allan Hall	
6. See attached questions specific to the video of Allan Hall (Addendum)	
7. Teacher asks students to pause and reflect on this presentation and write one sentence about their reaction to his account. a. Teacher asks for students to share their reactions	<p>Subject: ELA Strand LAFS.K12.SL: Standards for Speaking & Listening Cluster 1 LAFS.K12.SL.1: Comprehension & Collaboration Benchmark – LAFS.k12.SL.1.3 Evaluate a speakers point of view, reasoning & use of evidence & rhetoric</p>
8. Teacher has students surmise what aspect of the Survivor or any survivor helped them to survive.	
9. Teacher has students write a question that they would like to ask this Survivor and submit them to the teacher for dissemination, incorporating Eli Weisel’s theme “ <i>Listening to a witness, makes you a witness.</i> ”	<p>Subject: Social Studies Strand: SS.912.S: Sociology Standard 2: SS.912.S2 Culture / Examine the influence on the individual & the way cultural transmission is accomplished. Benchmark: SS.912.2.9 Prepare original written and oral reports and presentations on specific events, people or historical eras.</p>
10. HW assignment (optional): Teacher invites students to write a letter to the Survivor sharing how they received his story and their perspective on his survival.	

ADDENDUM: QUESTIONS SPECIFIC TO ALLAN HALL VIDEO

1. What was Allan’s pre-war childhood like? (happy)
2. What was his Father’s understanding of the situation? (must leave ASAP with or without wife)
3. What was life like for Allan once they left their town and family? (hiding, secretive, low-profile)
4. What happened to Allan after he was picked up by the Germans along with all of the children? (Father saved him)
5. What was his mother’s attitude about survival? (we all live or none of us live)
6. What was Allan’s situation once the war was over and they lived in Soviet Poland? (needed to escape from Communism. Father planned for 1 ½ years to leave and finally left)
7. What was Allan’s greatest site when he left Europe? (skyline of NYC)
8. What is Allan’s charge to the viewer? (there are similarities in the world of today and of the 1920’s and 30’s)



With special thanks to the

