World War II Literature

Get a well-rounded look at WWII by having students read a wide range of literature covering a variety of aspects of this world-wide tragedy.

Assign students to read at least three books from three different areas of the war. Culminate with discussions of each aspect of war.

Holocaust

* Parallel Journeys, Ayres
* The Devil’s Arithmetic, Yolen
* Diary of a Young Girl, Frank
* In My Hands, Memories of a Holocaust Rescuer, Opdyke

Germans

* The Boy Who Dared, Bartoletti
* Daniel, Half Human, Chotjewitz
* Milkweed, Spinelli
* Boy in the Striped Pajamas, Boyne

England/France/Northern Europe

* Good Night, Mr. Tom, Magorian
* Spying on Miss **Müller**, Bunting
* A Bag of Marbles, Joffo *prose or graphic novel*
* Number the Stars

Russia/Eastern Europe

* Between Shades of Gray, Sepetys
* Saving Zasha, Barrow
* Someone Named Eva, Wolfe

Pacific Pearl Harbor/Hawaii, Japan

* Under the Blood-Red Sun, Salisbury
* House of the Red Fish, Salisbury
* Hiroshima, Yep

Homefront

* The Port Chicago 50, Sheinkin
* Flygirl, Smith
* Summer of My German Soldier, Greene

Japanese-American plight

* Eyes of the Emperor, Salisbury
* Journey to Topaz, Uchida
* Jar of Dreams, Uchida
* Farewell to Manzanar, Wakatsuki