

D-DAY: Whether the Weather Matters



INTRODUCTION

Extreme planning was required to coordinate the 5,000 ships, 11,000 airplanes, over 150,000 soldiers, and all the supplies required for the D-Day invasion. General Eisenhower relied on information from weather forecasters and other scientists to determine the best time to successfully invade. One of the six meteorologists, Lawrence Hogben stated, "The outcome of D-Day, perhaps the whole future of the western world rested on those forecasts . . ."

In this program, students will examine primary source artifacts to evaluate the conditions on D-Day and either support or refute Eisenhower's decision to allow D-Day to commence June 6, 1944.

TARGET AUDIENCE

Grades 6 - 12

OBJECTIVES

- Students will gain an understanding of the overall objective of D-Day, primary sources, and the importance of the environmental conditions surrounding D-Day.
- Students will evaluate primary sources to determine for themselves if they agree with General Dwight D. Eisenhower's decision to commence D-Day on June 6, 1944.

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4	Lesson Plan
5	The Purpose of D-Day
6	Primary Sources: Preserving the Past
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13	Commence or Delay?
14	The Reality
15	Countdown Assessment
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TIME REQUIREMENT: 1 Hour

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