

NUMISMATICS AND SOCIETY: *Using the Lens of World War I*

Creating Prepared Students in Social Studies (CO standards):

Analyze historical time period and patterns of continuity and change, through multiple perspectives, within and among cultures and societies

I Can Statements:

I can analyze the impact of imperialism on human interactions

I can use objects, such as money, to understand the merger of cultures

I can identify key characteristics of certain regions and places and evaluate their changing nature based on human interactions

Grade Level: 4-7

Essential Question:

What can we learn about culture through symbolic icons?

Materials and Resources:

Internet Access to visit embedded links:
bit.ly/ww1-lessonplan



Learning Plan

1. ACCESS PRIOR KNOWLEDGE:

Ask students to define numismatics.

- For example, break students into small groups and ask them to list as many words as they can that start with “num.” After a brief discussion about the root “num,” define numismatics as the study or collection of coins, paper currency, and medals

Ask the same groups to consider what numismatic items might be created during a war. Have the groups share with the class.

Define the words commemorative, propaganda, and satire for the students before moving forward



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[MONEY.ORG/TEACHER-TOOLS](https://money.org/teacher-tools)

2. ACCESS NEW INFORMATION

Pull up the website linked [here](#) and click on the following displays

- [Victory Medals of World War I](#)
- [Commemorative Medals of World War I](#) (define commemoratives)
- [The Art of War Propaganda](#)
- [Satirical Medals of World War I](#)

Dependent on computer access have students explore the medals in the cases or explore them together as a class. Have them take notes on 2 or 3 that mean the most to them.

3. ASSESS LEARNING

Have a whole group or small group discussion about the different historical perspectives and messages present on the items in the cases

Have students create a commemorative coin, satire medal, or propaganda medal about a current or past world issue. Students should be prepared to explain the meaning behind their design and how others may understand the issue better because of their design



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