

Holocaust Evidence Circle

Use evidence to explain a planned, systematic persecution and murder.

GRADE 8 • SS.68.HE.1.1

SS.68.HE.1.1 "Examine the Holocaust as the planned and systematic state-sponsored persecution and murder of European Jews by Nazi Germany and its collaborators between 1933 and 1945."

NAME _____

DATE _____

OUR GROUND RULES Read together first

1 Use precise historical facts.

2 Speak about victims with respect.

3 Let each person finish speaking.

4 Play a card only after you use its starter honestly.

HOW TO PLAY Teams of 3 or 4

1. Choose one Topic card and read the question together.
2. Each player takes a different Role card.
3. Deal 4 Move cards to each player from copied card sets.
4. Take turns answering the topic question. When you genuinely use a card's starter, place that card in the middle.
5. Continue until every player has played all 4 cards, then complete the reflection.

AFTER THE ROUND Check what you did

☐ I can explain how persecution of Jews changed between 1933 and 1945.

☐ I can identify ways Nazi Germany used state power against Jews.

☐ I can explain why the Holocaust was planned and systematic.

☐ I can describe how collaborators helped persecute and murder Jews.


TOPIC CARDS · pick one per round

TOPIC	TOPIC	TOPIC
Pattern Over Time How did Nazi persecution of Jews change from 1933 to 1945, and what shows that it was planned and systematic?	State Power How did Nazi government policies and institutions turn antisemitism into persecution and murder?	Collaborators' Roles How did collaborators outside Nazi Germany help persecute and murder European Jews?

ROLE CARDS · one per player

ROLE	ROLE	ROLE	ROLE
Fact Finder Listen for specific, accurate historical details that support the group's ideas.	Time Keeper Check that the group connects events to the years 1933 through 1945 in a logical order.	System Spotter Listen for ways Nazi government policies, agencies, or institutions made persecution systematic.	Connection Builder Ask the group to explain how collaborators or evidence connect to the topic question.

MOVE CARDS · deal 4 to each player

MOVE CARD EVIDENCE LINK “One historical detail that supports our idea is ____.”	MOVE CARD EVIDENCE LINK “This detail shows persecution was systematic because ____.”	MOVE CARD TIMELINE TRACE “From ____ to ____, the treatment of Jews changed by ____.”	MOVE CARD TIMELINE TRACE “A key change in the period ____ was ____.”
MOVE CARD SYSTEM CHECK “This was state-sponsored because ____.”	MOVE CARD SYSTEM CHECK “A Nazi policy, agency, or institution involved was ____.”	MOVE CARD COLLABORATOR LINK “A collaborator or collaborating government could ____.”	MOVE CARD COLLABORATOR LINK “Collaboration mattered because ____.”

Print one card sheet per team. Cards last longer on thick paper.

RUNNING THE ROUNDS

Print enough copies of the 8-card Move deck so every student receives 4 cards. Use one Topic card per round, and have students choose a different topic for later rounds. If participation is uneven, direct the next turn to a student with more cards remaining and have the Connection Builder ask that student to add to the group's explanation.

WHAT A STRONG ROUND SOUNDS LIKE

Maya	One historical detail that supports our idea is that, in 1935, the Nuremberg Laws banned marriages between Jews and people classified as German or related blood.
Luis	From 1933 to 1945, the treatment of Jews changed by moving from exclusion and discriminatory laws to deportations and mass murder.
Ava	This was state-sponsored because Nazi government agencies made laws, organized deportations, and operated a system of camps and killing centers.
Noah	A collaborator or collaborating government could help identify, arrest, or deport Jews.
Maya	A Nazi policy, agency, or institution involved was the SS, which organized deportations and operated many camps.

LISTEN FOR

- Names Nazi Germany's government, laws, police, SS, or other institutions as actors
- Explains a progression from discrimination and exclusion to deportation and mass murder
- Uses the full 1933 to 1945 period accurately
- Explains that collaborators helped identify, arrest, guard, deport, or murder Jews

There are no right answers to the topic cards. Score the moves students make, not their opinions.