

Educator Guide: Youth Engagement & Intergenerational Learning

This guide provides prompts and ideas to help remembrance institutions design participatory, reflective, and intergenerational education activities. Use or adapt these materials for school visits, youth workshops, or commemorative events.

Template: Then & Now Activity

Pair a historical theme from your site with a current global issue. Invite youth to explore similarities, differences, and lessons.

Example format:

Then: A story, object, or testimony from WWII (e.g. a ration card, a resistance letter)

Now: A contemporary example (e.g. food insecurity, climate activism)

Reflection Questions:

- What values are at stake in both situations?
- How do people respond to hardship or injustice?
- What can we learn from the past?

Youth-led Tour Starter Guide

Invite students to create and present a mini-tour based on your exhibition. Provide them with prompts to guide their segment.

Tour Prompt Cards:

- Choose one object or photo that speaks to you.
- Share the story behind it in your own words.
- Why do you think this matters today?
- What question would you ask your audience?

Intergenerational Interview

Use these prompts for youth interviewing elders, either in-person or recorded for a project.

Suggested Questions:

- What do you remember most clearly about WWII or its aftermath?
- What values helped you or your family get through that time?
- What advice would you give young people today?
- What do you hope people will remember about your generation?

Creative Exercise: Letter to the Past

Invite youth to write a letter or short message to someone from the past:

- A civilian in hiding
- A young person during wartime
- A soldier or resistance fighter

Follow-up reflection:

- What would they write back to you?
- What would you do if you were in their place?