



Teacher Resource

# Hiroshima Anniversary

## Focus Questions

Discuss the BTN story as a class and record the main points of the discussion. Students will then respond to the following:

1. Where is Hiroshima and Nagasaki? Find on a map.
2. What year did the bombing of Hiroshima happen?
3. What type of energy is released from atomic bombs?
4. What is the story of Sadako Sasaki?
5. Why is it important to commemorate the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki?

## Activity: Personal Response

Respond to the BTN Hiroshima Anniversary story as a class. Students will complete one or more of the following incomplete sentences:

- Learning about the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki made me feel...
- It was interesting to learn that...
- It is important to commemorate the Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombings because...
- BTN covered this story because...



## Activity: Comprehension

After watching the BTN Hiroshima Anniversary story students can answer one or more of the following comprehension questions, for example:

- What are some keywords from the BTN story?
- What did you learn from the story? Write a summary.
- What is the purpose of this news story? To entertain, persuade, inform, explain or describe?



### EPISODE 21

5 August 2025

### KEY LEARNING

Students will learn about the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

### CURRICULUM

#### HASS – Years 5 & 6

Develop questions to investigate people, events, developments, places and systems.

Locate, collect and organise information and data from primary and secondary sources in a range of formats.

#### History – Year 7

Develop historical questions about the past to inform historical inquiry.

Locate and identify primary and secondary sources to use in historical inquiry.

Identify the origin, content, context and purpose of primary and secondary sources.

## Activity: Word Cloud

Students will brainstorm a list of key words that relate to the BTN Hiroshima Anniversary story and create a word cloud. A word cloud is a visual made up of important/key words relating to a topic. Ask students to think of words they associate with the VE Day. Create a word cloud using a free online word cloud creator such as [Word It Out](#). Working in pairs, students can clarify the meanings of the words included in their word clouds.



## Activity: Sadako's Story

The origami crane has become a symbol of peace and hope, through the story of a Japanese girl called Sadako. Sadako's story continues to inspire people around the world.

### Reading

As a class or individually read *Sadako and The Thousand Paper Cranes* by Eleanor Coerr. Alternatively, read about Sadako Sasaki's [story here](#).

### Discussion

Discuss the story and respond to the following discussion points.

- Begin by locating Hiroshima on a world map.
- How did the bombing of Hiroshima affect Sadako and her family?
- Why is it important to remember Sadako and the victims of Hiroshima?
- What ancient Japanese tradition did you learn about? Describe the legend.
- How does Sadako's story inspire peace?
- How did Sadako inspire you?
- How did Sadako's story make you feel?
- Describe the importance of Sadako's story to a friend or family member.



Sadako at the hospital. COPYRIGHT: SADA KO LEGACY NPO. (Source: [National Park Service](#))

Brainstorm themes in the story. Discuss the story's themes and its relevance to contemporary issues.

- War
- Peace
- Resilience
- Conflict
- Hope
- Remembering

### History

The following KWLH organiser provides students with a framework to explore the history of the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki during the Second World War.

What do I <u>know</u> ?	What do I <u>want</u> to know?	What have I <u>learnt</u> ?	<u>How</u> will I find out?

After watching the BTN Hiroshima Anniversary story, students will develop their own question to research in more detail or choose one of the following inquiry questions.

- Why was an atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima? Create a timeline of significant events that led to the bombing of Hiroshima.
- What was the Manhattan Project?
- Why was Hiroshima chosen as a target to be bombed?
- How did people around the world feel about the bombing of Hiroshima?
- What was the long-term impact of the atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki?

### Art

Learning to fold paper cranes allows students to connect with Sadako's experience and create their own symbols of peace. Encourage students to continue folding paper cranes and sharing Sadako's story to promote peace and hope. Ask the students to teach another class how to make cranes and/or to write instructions for them.



Crane folding instructions (Source: [Shrine Melbourne](#))

[The Thousand Crane Club](#) – Every year Hiroshima International School receives thousands of paper cranes from schools, organisations and individuals around the world. Get your school involved in the Thousand Crane Club and make your contribution to peace by folding 1000 cranes to be placed in the Peace Park at Sadako's monument.

## Activity: Virtual Tour

### Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum

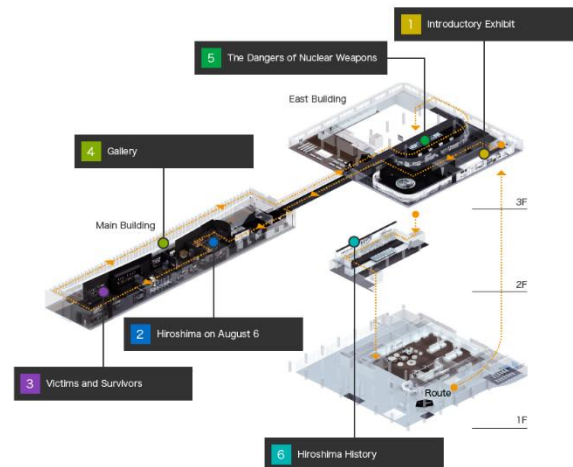
Take a [virtual tour](#) of the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum to learn more about the impact of the bombing on Hiroshima. Explore different spaces within the museum including:

[Hiroshima on August 6](#)

[Victims and survivors](#)

[The dangers of nuclear weapons](#)

[Hiroshima history](#)



## Useful Websites

- [Hiroshima Anniversary](#) – BTN
- [VE Day Anniversary](#) – BTN
- [75 years since atomic bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki in Japan](#) – BBC Newsround
- [WW2: Was it right to bomb Hiroshima?](#) – BBC Bitesize
- [Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum](#) – Exhibition
- [War History](#) – BTN