

Operation Babylift During the Vietnam War

Content Standards

C3 Social Studies Framework:

D2.His.4.3-5. Explain why individuals and groups during the same historical period differed in their life perspectives.

D2.His.14.3-5. Explain the causes and effects of events and developments.

Texas Social Studies TEKS

113.16 (5) History. The student understands important issues, events, and individuals in the United States during the 20th and 21st centuries.

The Next Generation Sunshine State Social Studies Standards

SS.5.CG.2.4 Evaluate the importance of civic duties and responsibilities to the preservation of the United States' constitutional republic.

Common Core State Standards for Language Arts

Speaking and Listening 4.1, 5.1 Engage effectively in collaborative conversations with diverse partners on grade level issues, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.

Speaking and Listening 4.2, 5.2 Integrate and evaluate information presented in diverse media and formats, including visually, quantitatively, and orally.

Writing 4.2, 5.2 Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.

Florida's B.E.S.T. Standards

ELA.5.C.4.1: Conduct research to answer a question, organizing information about the topic and using multiple reliable and valid sources.

Social Emotional Learning Performance Descriptors

2A. Recognize the feelings and perspectives of others.

Stage E.4. Analyze the various points of view expressed on an historical, political, or social issue.

Stage F.3. Describe others' feelings in a variety of situations.

WIDA ELD Standard 5: English language learners communicate information, ideas, and concepts necessary for success in the content area of Social Studies.


Texas English Language Proficiency Standards

1A Use prior knowledge to learn new language

1C Use techniques to learn new vocabulary

1D Speak using learning strategies

1E Use and reuse new basic and academic language to internalize language

Appropriate for:	Student Background Knowledge:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students in grades 4-5• English Language Learners	Students should have some knowledge of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Vietnam War• South Vietnam• orphanage• international adoption• civilians 

GBCStories Demo

Operation BabyLift: Christina Waller’s Story

<p>Essential Question: How was Christina Waller’s life impacted by Operation BabyLift?</p>
<p>Learning Objectives: Students will :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Identify how the Vietnam War impacted babies and children within Vietnam. ● Compare and contrast Christina’s life before and after Operation BabyLift.

Video Assignment



Christina Waller - speaks about her adoption from Vietnam following Operation BabyLift

Before viewing	<p>Bell Ringer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Imagine being taken from your home and being told that you are going to board a large aircraft and flown halfway around the world. How would you feel? <i>Allow learners to discuss their responses.</i> ● Differentiation considerations: Prior to viewing the video, it may be helpful to discuss the following words/phrases from Christina’s discussion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ten to a crib ● ran by nuns ● what we speculate is that they were being marched up North ● to save their child’s life, they abandoned me to let the orphanage find me <p>Please refer to the many different activities included in GBC Stories’ Social Emotional Handbook. It may be best to select the specific soft skills and related SEL activities from the handbook prior to teaching this lesson.</p>
During Viewing	<p>Give learners a copy of the Operation BabyLift During the Vietnam War KWL</p> <p>a. For English Language Learners:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Differentiate: Aid learners who need additional assistance and second language learners by having them create a bilingual picture book glossary. From Christina Waller’s story, have them include words/phrases such as: orphanage; Vietnam; American soldier; crib; nun; C5 jet ii. Model what the word ‘orphanage’ looks like. Help learners understand having no parents or caretakers responsible for them. Explain the concept of a group home. Show learners a picture of a crib and what it might look like to have ten babies/young children in one crib. iii. Differentiate: Provide visual cues to help learners understand polio; measles; rheumatic fever <p>Have learners complete Operation BabyLift During the Vietnam War KWL. Allow learners to follow the instructions on the handout to complete it. From there, allow learners to discuss the questions and answers they found following the research.</p>

	Students may take notes on the Video Note-taking Guide in Reusable Resources .
After viewing	<p>Class Activity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have learners watch the video a second time. • Following the second viewing, have learners complete the Operation Babylift During the Vietnam War Handout
Exit Ticket	Have learners complete the Operation Babylift During the Vietnam War Review Questions Handout
Extension Activity	<p>Provide the Enrichment opportunities for learners who are interested. (Consider using this as extra credit or added learning for older students.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have learners complete the 3-2-1 Reflection handout available in Reusable Resources. • Have learners look online for other adults who may have been lifted from Vietnam as part of Operation BabyLift. Allow learners to report their findings to the class or via a written report/presentation. • Have learners create a slogan and illustration to capture the historic event Operation BabyLift. • Have learners research what was happening in Vietnam during 1975. From there, have learners create a Google Slides presentation to share with the class. • Have learners rewatch Christina’s video and write down everything she shares about her father. From there, research the role American troops played in the Vietnam War during the 1970s. <p>Please refer to the many graphic organizers, rubrics, and other materials in Reusable Resources for ideas for additional Extension activities.</p>

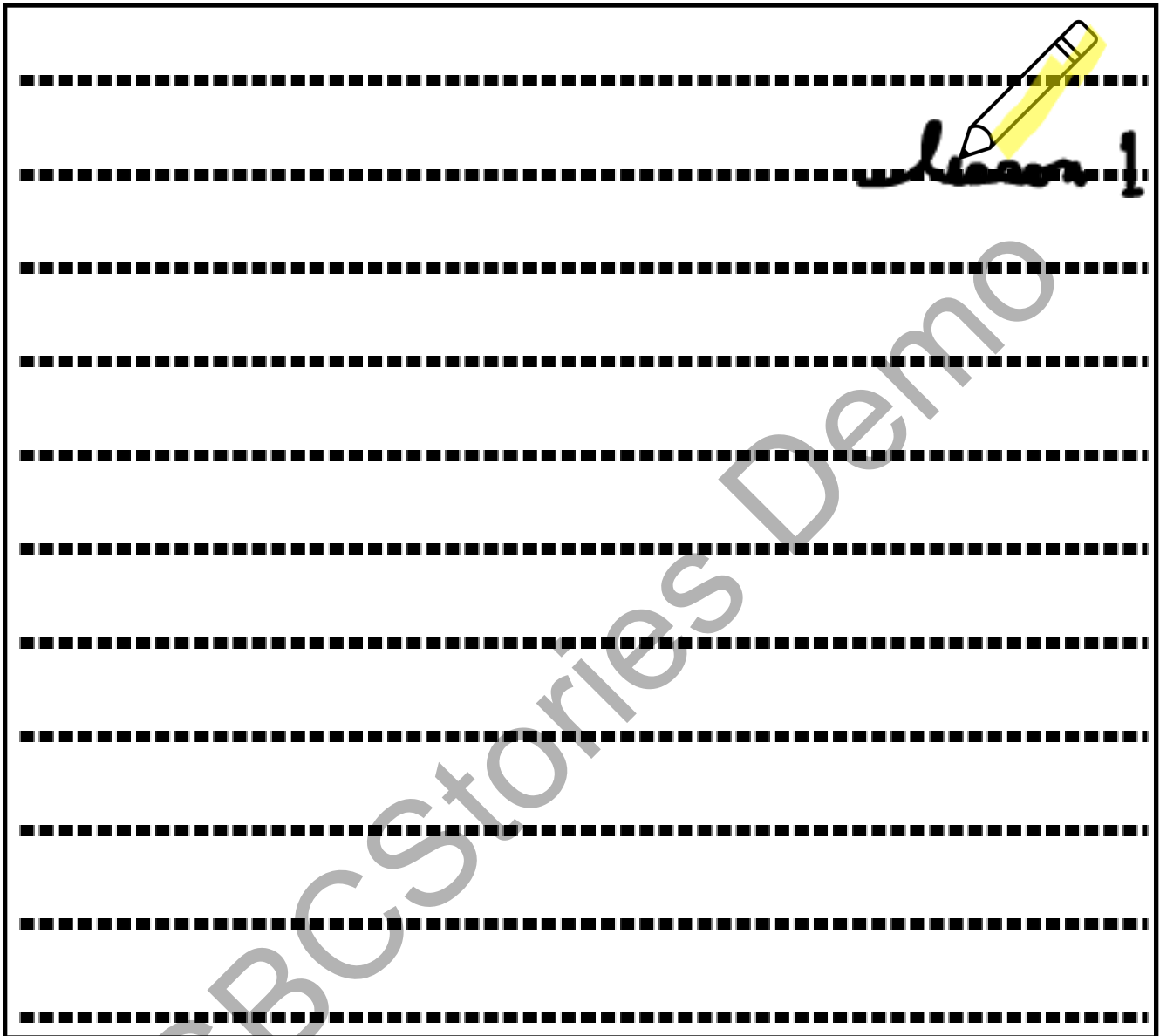
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Printable/downloadable:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operation Babylift During the Vietnam War KWL • Operation Babylift During the Vietnam War Handout • Operation Babylift During the Vietnam War Review Questions Handout • 3-2-1 Reflection handout available in Reusable Resources • Please refer to the many activities and handouts available in the Social Emotional Learning Handbook. • Video Note-Taking Guide in Reusable Resources

Suggested Reading
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remembering The Doomed First Flight Of Operation Babylift : NPR https://www.npr.org/2015/04/26/402208267/remembering-the-doomed-first-flight-of-operation-babylift • Operation Babylift: A frantic Saigon rescue effort is echoed in Kabul's chaos https://www.washingtonpost.com/history/2021/08/29/operation-babylift-saigon-kabul-airport/ • <i>The Doll</i> by Nhung N. Tran-Davies and Ravy Puth • <i>Wishes</i> by Muon Thi Van and Victo Ngai • <i>My Grandfather’s War</i> by Glyn Harper and Jenny Cooper

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Teacher Notes:



Lesson 1

GBCStories Demo