

Virginia Studies VS.10

Virginia during World War I and World War II (new 2023 standards)

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VS.10A – PREPARING FOR WARTIME: LEADERSHIP AND CITIZENS IN ACTION

- a) *Examine how key leaders and citizens prepared for wartime.*



Citizens supported the troops by rationing, growing food in "Victory Gardens" and buying War Bonds

America Enters the World Wars

World War I (1914–1918) and **World War II (1939–1945)** were both global wars that involved many countries, and they had a big impact on Virginia and the entire United States.

- The U.S. stayed **neutral at first** in both wars.
- In **WWI**, the U.S. joined in **1917** after the sinking of ships like the **Lusitania** by German submarines.
- In **WWII**, the U.S. entered in **1941** after Japan bombed **Pearl Harbor** in Hawaii.

Citizens Support the War Effort

- **Rationing** – Families could only buy **limited amounts** of goods like sugar, meat, and gasoline so more could go to the troops.
- **Victory Gardens** – Families grew their own **vegetables** so more food could be sent to soldiers.
- **War Bonds** – Citizens **loaned money** to the government by purchasing savings bonds to help pay for the war.
- **Recycling and Preserving** – People collected scrap metal, rubber, and preserved food to help supply the military.



US enters WWI after Germany sinks the Lusitania



US enters WWII after Japan attack at Pearl Harbor

Leaders Step Up

- **Woodrow Wilson**, from Virginia, was president during **World War I**.
- He helped lead **peace talks** and supported creating the **League of Nations**.
- Although the League didn't last, Wilson's efforts earned him the **Nobel Peace Prize**.

VS.10B – CONTRIBUTIONS OF MILITARY VETERANS AND MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENTS

10b) Describe the contributions made by military veterans and Medal of Honor recipients.

Virginia's Heroes

- Many **Virginians** **served bravely** in both World War I and World War II.
- Soldiers from Virginia fought in key battles and helped defend freedom both at home and abroad.



Medal of Honor

- The **Medal of Honor** is the **highest military award** in the United States.
- It is awarded to members of the armed forces who show **extreme bravery in battle**, risking their lives beyond what is expected.
- Several **Virginians** have received the Medal of Honor for their courageous service during these wars.

November 11, the day in 1918 when WWI peace agreement was signed, was designated **Veterans Day**, a holiday to honor veterans of all U.S. war