Can You Stop the War?
World War One – Decision Making Activity

Purpose: Students will use collaborative skills tostop World War I.

TEKs Correlation

(1) History. The student understands traditional historical points of reference in world history. The student is expected to:

(F) identify major causes and describe the major effects of the following important turning points in world history from 1914 to the present: the world wars and their impact on political, economic, and social systems

(10) History. The student understands the causes and impact of World War I. The student is expected to:

(A) identify the importance of imperialism, nationalism, militarism, and the alliance system in causing World War I;

(31) Social studies skills. The student uses problem-solving and decision-making skills, working independently and with others, in a variety of settings. The student is expected to:

(A) use a problem-solving process to identify a problem, gather information, list and consider options, consider advantages and disadvantages, choose and implement a solution, and evaluate the effectiveness of the solution; and

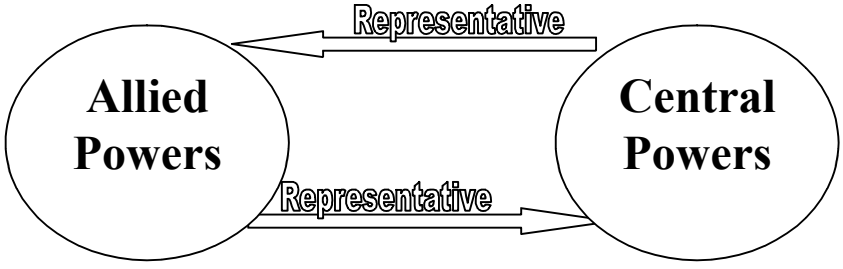
(B) use a decision-making process to identify a situation that requires a decision, gather information, identify options, predict consequences, and take action to implement a decision.

Materials Included:

1A - Allied Powers scenario
1B - Central Powers scenario
1C - Individual decision sheet
1D - Group decision sheet

Instructions

1. Put students into pairs.
2. Give each pair a scenario - either the Central Powers (**document 1B**) or the Allied Powers **(document 1A)** - and an individual decision sheet **(document 1C)**.
    a. Students need to read the scenario. They will then come up with three possible solutions to the problem.
    b. They must come up with possible positive & negative consequences for each possible solution.
    c. Once students have done this, they need to pick their strongest solution & justify their answer.
3. Once the majority of class has completed their decision charts, please organize each side into large circles.
    a. First, each pair needs to present their strongest solution & the reason they picked it.
    b. After all pairs have presented, the group must come to a consensus on a group solution. As they are debating the group should be filling out the group decision sheet **(document 1D).**
4. After each group has come to a consensus, have the group elect a representative. This representative will present the possible solution to the other group using **document 1D.**



    a. The other group does NOT get to talk to the representative. The representative states their position and then leaves.
    b. After the representative has left, THEN the group has 5 minutes to debate if they will take the opposite groups offer or reject it.
5. Have the students pick another representative. They will present the group's final choice to the class.
6. Teacher will then debrief on why they made their choices, and then how close they were to the actual solution.

World War One Decision Tree
Allied Powers

1A

Scenario: Your country is in an alliance with Britain, France and Russia. Russia is an ally of Serbia. Your alliance is at odds with the Central Powers (Germany, Austria-Hungary, and the Ottoman Empire).

You are concerned about the Central Powers for several reasons. Germany has built a huge army and navy and is becoming very aggressive. Competition in Africa and Asia for resources has raised tensions and sporadic fighting is breaking out. The rise of aggressive nationalism is fueling border conflicts between France (your ally) and Germany (also between Austria-Hungary and Serbia). Tensions in Europe are rising, and countries are stockpiling weapons and preparing for war.

News flash! The Archduke of Austria-Hungary has been assassinated by a Serbian nationalist! Austria-Hungary is threatening to declare war on Serbia! If you cannot defuse the situation, this conflict will kick start the alliance system, and you will be pulled into a devastating war!

What do you do????

World War One Decision Tree
Central Powers

1B

Scenario: Your country is in an alliance with Austria-Hungary, Germany, and the Ottoman Empire. Your alliance is at odds with the Allied Powers (Britain, France, and Russia). Serbia is an ally of Russia.

You are concerned about the Allied Powers for several reasons. Britain is still the world's leading power and thus a competitor with Germany for political influence and economic opportunity. Competition in Africa and Asia for resources has raised tensions and sporadic fighting is breaking out. The rise of violent nationalism is fueling border conflicts between Germany (your ally) and France (also between Austria-Hungary and Serbia). Tensions in Europe are rising, and countries are stockpiling weapons and preparing for war.

News flash! The Archduke of Austria-Hungary has been assassinated by a Serbian nationalist! Austria-Hungary is threatening to declare war on Serbia! If you cannot defuse the situation, this conflict will kick start the alliance system, and you will be pulled into a devastating war!

What do you do????

World War I Decision Making Activity

Options	Possible Positive Consequences	Possible Negative Consequences	What is your final decision? Why did you pick this?
	A. B.	A. B.	
	A. B.	A. B.	
	A. B.	A. B.	

Decision Tree- Group Decision

1D

Group: _____

Group members:

1. What will we do to solve this problem? What can we offer the other group?

2. What positive consequences will happen if the other group accepts our offer?

   A.

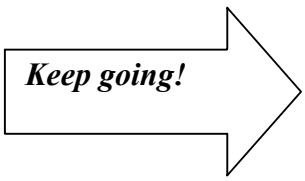
   B.

3. What negative consequences will happen if the other group does not accept our offer?

   A.

   B.

Remember, this is a negotiation – you want to get what you want with the LEAST possible cost to you!



4. **What to say to the other group:**

   A. We are offering to _____.

   B. You should ….. (2 ideas of what the other group should do and why!)

5. **What the other group is offering us:**

6. **Do we accept the other group's offer? YES or NO**

   Give two reasons supporting your decision below