Directions: Follow the step by step directions below to create a color coded map of the events that started World War II.

Aggression Starts World War II

- Step 1: The first act of aggression in World War II (WW II) occurred in Asia. The Japanese invaded Manchuria in northern China in late 1931. Find Japan on your map of the world and color it red. Color the area of China north of 40°N pink and write 1931/1932 in the center.
- Step 2: Then on March 16, 1935, Hitler fulfilled one of his promises to the German people, he violated the terms of the Treaty of Versailles by increasing the size of the German Army. Color Germany red on both the world map and the map of Europe
- Step 3: The US Congress responded to growing aggression in Europe with a series of Neutrality Acts from 1935 to 1937, these laws forbid American arms sales and loans to nations at war and barred American travelers from belligerent ships. In the northern US draw an arrow toward Europe, above it draw

⅓ i → then draw an X over them, label this 1935 to 1937.

- Step 4: A year later March 7, 1936 Hitler violated the Treaty again by moving his army into the Rhineland along the French border. Despite the fact that this was an open violation of the World War I peace Treaty of Versailles, Britain and France did nothing to stop Hitler. On the map of Europe, color the Rhineland red and place a number 1 in the center. On your key to the left, next to the number 1 write, "March 7, 1935: Germany violates the Treaty of Versailles by sending its army into the Rhineland, Britain and France do nothing"
- Step 5: Italy made the next move on May 9, 1936 when it violated international law and invaded Ethiopia. Find Ethiopia on your world map and color it pink, write "1935" in the center. Find Italy on both the world and European map and color it red
- Step 6: In October of 1936 Italy and Germany formed an Alliance called the Axis, write "Axis" in black above the label for Germany and Italy on the map of Europe
- Step 7: Meanwhile, in Asia, Japan pushed south from Manchuria to take over the city of Nanjing in 1937. On your map of the world, find China. Starting at the area you already colored pink in Northern China, color the coast of China pink to 32°N, color the rest of China and Mongolia blue.
- Step 8: Two years later, in 1938 Hitler started to work towards another one of his goals, the unification of all of the German speaking people of Europe. His first step in accomplishing this goal was the Anschluss, or unification of Germany and Austria. In March of 1938, Hitler sent German troops into Austria, and proclaimed it part of Germany. Austria asked Britain and France for help but they did nothing. On your map of Europe and the World find Austria and color it pink. On the map of Europe, write a black 2 in the center of Austria. On the key to the left, next to the number two write "March 1938: Germany takes Austria in the Anschluss, Britain & France do nothing"
- Step 9: Still working towards his goal of unify all of the German speaking people, Hitler demanded that the German speaking portion of the Czechoslovakia known as the Sudetenland unify with Germany. Britain and France, hoping to avoid conflict, appeased Hitler by agreeing to the demand. On the map of Europe, find the Sudetenland, color it pink.
- Step 10: America was still determined to maintain neutrality in 1938, so much so that Indiana Congressman Louis Ludlow proposed a constitutional amendment that would have required a national referendum for a U.S. declaration of war. It was narrowly defeated. Write "Ludlow Amendment Proposed, 1938" under the last symbols in the U.S. Meanwhile FDR grew increasingly nervous and asked congress for \$300 million for defense. Draw ↑ § \$ and label 1938 next to "Ludlow Amendment Proposed, 1938."
- Step 11: Despite the fact that Hitler had promised Britain and France that he would only take over the German speaking areas of Czechoslovakia, in March of 1939 Germany took over all of Czechoslovakia, Britain and France again did nothing. On both your map of the world and Europe color Czechoslovakia pink. On the map of Europe write a number 3 in the center of Czechoslovakia. On the key, next to number 3 write "March 1939: Germany takes Czechoslovakia, Britain and France do nothing.
- Step 12: After the invasion of Czechoslovakia, FDR called for actions "short of war" and asked Hitler and Mussolini to knock it off. They responded by mocking him. Mussolini said: "Never in the course of history has a nation been guided by a paralytic. There have been bald kings, fat kings, handsome and even stupid kings, but never kings who, in order to go to the bathroom and the dinner table, had to be supported by other men." In the U.S. draw €, label 1939 under the last symbols you drew.
- Step 13: Still telling the world that all he is trying to do is unify the German speaking people, Hitler makes another move in March 1939. Germany invades the German speaking southwestern corner of

Lithuania, known as Memel. On your map of Europe find Memel, color it pink and write a black number 4 just to the right. In the key, next to 4, write: "March 1939: Germany takes Memel, Britain and France do nothing"

- Step 14: Finally, in Spring of 1939, Britain and France took a stand. It was clear that Hitler's next target would be the unification of the two parts of Germany by conquering western Poland. Britain and France promised Poland that they would defend Poland in the event of an invasion by Germany. On your map of Europe, find the area of northwestern Poland that divides Germany into two parts, draw a small stop sign symbol: (s)
- Step 15: By this time, Hitler figured Britain and France would continue to ignore his aggression like they had with the Rhineland, Austria, Czechoslovakia, and Memel, however, Hitler worried that the Soviet leader Stalin would freak out if Germany invaded Poland. So, in August, 1939 Hitler meet with Stalin and made a deal, Germany and the USSR would both invade Poland, Germany would take the western half, the Soviets would take the Eastern half. Draw a line down the middle of Poland on your map of Europe
- Step 16: Hitler invaded Western Poland in September of 1939, two days later France and Britain declared war on Germany. One your map of Europe, color the Western Half of Poland pink and place a black number 5 in the center. On your key, next to 5 write: "September, 1939: Germany invaded Poland, Britain and France declare war" On both of your maps, color Britain blue (DO NOT color France). Above the label for Britain and France write Allied
- Step 17: After Germany's invasion of Poland American pacifism slowly started to give way to calls for action, draw ∛→ 𝔅, 1939 in the U.S. under the symbols from step 12. FDR asked for an additional \$1.3 billion for defense and called Hitler and Mussolini "two madmen" draw another ↑ ½ \$, 1939 in the U.S. and asked congress to amend the Neutrality Acts to allow belligerent to purchase weapons on a cash-and-carry bases. FDR assumed this would benefit the allies as they controlled the Atlantic and as such would be the only ones able to carry the arms on their own ships. Draw an arrow toward Europe with a ½ above it and label it "cash-and-carry, 1939."
- Step 18: Britain and France's colonies also entered the war with them, color British South Africa, British East Africa, British West Africa, British Egypt, British Sudan, British India, and French Madagascar blue on the world map. Color Egypt blue on the map of Europe.
- Step 19: Several of Britain's former colonies also joined in the fight. Color Canada, Australia, and New Zealand blue.
- Step 20: Italy makes the next move by invading Albania in the fall of 1939. Color Albania pink on your map of Europe and the world
- Step 21: The first year of World War II is often called the Phony War because very little fighting took place. Although Britain and France declared war on Germany, they did little to act on it. From September 1939 to April 1940 France and Britain basically sat behind their well fortified boarders and waited for Hitler to act. Write a number 6 on the border between France and Germany. On your key, next to 6 write: "September 1939 to April 1940: The Phony War Britain and France wait for Germany to act"
- Step 22: April 9, 1940 brought the first extensive use of Germany's secrete weapon, the Blitzkrieg (well really it wasn't a secrete, the Germans used it in Poland in '39). Blitzkrieg, which translates to lightening war, was well named. It was a battle tactic that allowed the Germans to overwhelm their enemies before they even had a chance to respond. The Blitz included:
 - a. Airplanes drop tons of bombs on the front line of the enemy defense, the rear, most important roads, airfield, and communication centers;
 - b. Simultaneously the ground troops set up smoke screens all along the frontline (or at least in several locations) and initiate several minor combats, so that the enemy does not know in which exactly location of the front the main strike will occur;
 - c. Then in a massive attack, fast moving tanks and armored vehicles break through the enemy defense lines, chase the enemy and take prisoners. In the meantime, infantry create smoke walls along the front and attack at random directions, confusing the enemy about the direction of the main strike;
 - d. Infantry and other units attack the enemy flanks (sides) in order to meet other units and circle the enemy;
 - e. Fast moving tanks and armored vehicles lead the offensive and penetrate deep into the enemy territory, eliminating and disorganizing the rears;
 - f. Main forces link up, encircle the enemy and obliterate them.

On April 9, 1940, the Nazi German army invaded Denmark and Norway, both surrendered by June. On both your maps, color Demark and Norway pink. One your map of Europe draw a lighting bolt in Norway and label it 1940

- Step 23: One May 10, 1940 Nazi Germany invaded Belgium, France, Luxembourg and the Netherlands. All four surrendered by June, 1940. One both maps color these countries pink. One the map of Europe draw a sin France and label it 1940. Although the country of Belgium was conquered, its colony in the Congo remained free from Axis control and joined the fight against the Axis powers, color the Belgian Congo blue on the world map.
- Step 24: Much of France's army escaped to Britain, from there, it continued to fight the Nazis. In southern Britain draw a small French flag
- Step 25: Back in Nazi occupied France, the Germans set up a puppet government for the French known as Vichy France. On your map of Europe, in southern France, write "Vichy"
- Step 26: With the conquest of France, the Nazis also got control over several of France's colonies, color French West Africa pink. On the map of Europe, color French Algeria, French Morocco, and French Tunisia pink
- Step 27: In August of 1940, Italy took over the British colony in Somalia, on your world map color all of the Italian colonies pink (including Italian Somalia and Italian Tripoli). Color Italian Tripoli pink on your map of Europe as well
- Step 28: In response to increasing Japanese aggression in the Pacific, the United States placed an embargo on the sale of fuel and scrap metal to Japan. Draw an arrow in the Pacific from the US to Japan and draw a **§**, place an X over it and label it 1940.
- Step 29: On September 27, 1940, Japan responded to the embargo by joining the Axis alliance of Italy and Germany and invading French Indo-China to access oil in the area. Above the label for Japan on the World map write Axis and color French Indochina (Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia) pink.
- Step 30: German conquered Romania in October 1940. On both maps color Romania pink, on the map of Europe draw a and label it 1940
- Step 31: Hungary joined the Axis Powers in November 1940 to avoid being conquered, color Hungary pink on both maps
- Step 32: In November and December of 1940, Nazi Germany starts dropping massive numbers of bombs on Britain. Under the label for Britain draw ● and label it 1940
- Step 33: Back in the U.S. FDR ran for reelection, signed into law the first peacetime draft in American history, began construction on a two ocean navy and gave Britain 50 old navy ships in exchange for some

military bases. Draw an arrow toward Europe in the Atlantic and draw 🗻 above it and draw several

Hawaii label both 1940.

- Step 34: In April of 1941 the Nazis invade Greece and Yugoslavia, both surrendered with-in 21 days. Color Greece and Yugoslavia pink on both maps. On the map of Europe, draw a sin both Yugoslavia and Greece and label both 1941
- Step 35: June 22, 1941 began the Germans most ambitious campaign, the invasion of the Soviet Union. By November 20, 1941 the Nazi army made it all the way to Moscow. One your map of Europe, draw a pink line connecting the Soviet cities of Leningrad, Demyansk, Moscow, Belgorod, Stalingrad, and Rostov. Color all of the Soviet land west of this line pink, including Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, East Poland, and Bulgaria. Draw a in the center of this pink area and label it 1941. Now color the same area pink on your world map, try to be as accurate as possible. Color the rest of the USSR blue on both maps.
- Step 36: Back in the U.S., FDR declared America the "great arsenal of democracy" and Congress approved the lend-lease program which allowed the president to lend and lease weapons to the allies. Draw an arrow from the US to Britain and an arrow from the US to the USSR, above both draw → ★ \ . The Germans responded by sinking supply ships with their U-Boats. FDR authorized the US navy to

protect the shipments with conveys of US naval ships. Draw a circle of \implies around your

 \implies \bigstar symbols in the Atlantic. Write 1941 next to these symbols.

- Step 37: One December 7, 1941, the Japanese brought the United States into the war by bombing Pearl Harbor in Hawaii. On your world map, draw a on Hawaii and label it December 7, 1941. Color the USA blue and write Allied above the United States Label.
- Step 38: By the end of 1942, the Japanese were dominating the Pacific. They had conquered Philippines, French Indo-China, Thailand, Burma, Malaysia, Indonesia, Northern Papua New Guinea, the Solomon Islands, the Marshall Islands, and the Federated States of Micronesia. Color all of these areas pink on your world map.
- Step 39: Eventually all of the countries of North and South America, the Middle East and Turkey joined on the side of the Allies in their fight against the Nazis. Color all of South and Central America (including Mexico), the Middle East (accept Afghanistan) and Turkey blue on the world map.



