

# The Holocaust: history and life lessons

my teaching experience at the Lyceum  
Pushkin Causeni Moldova

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Want to say hello to everyone. I am very glad that there is such an opportunity to talk about what we are doing to educate young people and preserve the memory of the past.

The Holocaust: History and Life Lessons is taught to students in grades IX-XII and developed in accordance with methodological recommendations with the support of the Yad Vashem International School of Holocaust Studies, Jerusalem.

Elective discipline The Holocaust: History and Life Lessons includes the study of events of the Holocaust, which can draw the attention of young people to examples prejudice and injustice in the modern world. The study of the Holocaust can confront students with stereotypes, myths and prejudices and allow them to counter prejudice with scientific evidence. But moral lessons won't justified unless they are based on an accurate and objective study of historical evidence.

The study of the history of the Holocaust provides a context for deep reflection on the existence of the danger of remaining indifferent, silent in the face of the oppression of others. As students deepen the impact of historical, social, religious political and economic factors that together led to the Holocaust, they realize the complexity of the historical process; also get an idea of how a combination of factors can contribute to the disintegration of democratic values. students understand that the citizens of a democratic country have an obligation to learn how to identify danger signals and how to respond.

Learning about the history of the Holocaust helps students reflect on the use and abuse of power, the roles and responsibilities of individuals, organizations and countries, when faced with human rights violations.

Lyceum named after Pushkin former Russian secondary school number 3 of the city of Causeni dates back to 1949, its walls remember teachers and students of Jews. The city of Causeni itself was a Jewish town (shteitl) in the past. The terrible events of the Holocaust touched us too, so it is very important to tell children about it.

My teaching experience did not begin with lessons in this discipline, but with thematic meetings with students from different classes on this topic. At these lectures, I talked about the Holocaust in general and, in particular, about those tragic episodes that took place in our city and country. These lessons were timed to coincide with International Holocaust Remembrance Day, as well as other dates. The children were also given examples of the courage of people who saved Jews.

Later it was proposed to conduct an elective course "The Holocaust history and life lessons." This course is really important. While studying, children first of all get acquainted with the culture and history of the people with whom their grandparents lived side by side. With a people who left a deep mark on our history. Children learn about what their native land looked like before. Read and discuss the memories of Jewish residents about life. They look at old photographs and recognize places they know in them. This is very important for immersion in the big picture and so the future tragedy is felt more strongly.

The lessons discuss the history of the Jewish people and the persecution that took place before. From ancient times to the twentieth century. The pogroms that took place in Tsarist Russia are analyzed. Children learn to build cause-and-effect relationships and understand how propaganda works. They learn, which is very important these days, to distinguish fake information from the truth. Develop critical thinking skills.

Approaching the events of the Holocaust itself, all the events that led to the fact that the entire Jewish people was under the threat of destruction are carefully studied.

Particular attention is paid, as I said earlier, to the events that took place in our country. Children are told about the evacuation of the local population by the Soviet authorities and about the sad fate of the remaining Jews in the city of Kaushany. About the tragedy that took place in the village of Verkhnyaya Marianovka, Kaushansky district, where disabled Jews were brutally murdered. It tells about a seventeen-year-old blind Jewish girl who miraculously escaped. Children learn about the Chisinau ghetto and the Dubosari tragedy. They learn about the sad role

that the local population played in the extermination of the Jews. All this is studied on the basis of facts and testimonies of survivors.

It is very important in teaching to find the edge and not to load children with a bunch of information. Present it simply and clearly. At the same time, it is important to understand that some evidence and photographs can injure the child's psyche, so you need to balance, choosing and presenting it correctly. A good help in this can be feature films that children, after watching at home, can discuss in class. The film (The boy in the Striped Pyjamas) makes a strong impression on children.

The topic of the Holocaust is very important. It cannot be hushed up and forgotten, especially in our days. Unfortunately, even now there are voices that say that everything was wrong or that everything is too exaggerated. Such lessons will help children in the future, having heard such speeches, have their own informed opinion. It will also help them be more tolerant of other people.