



Culminating Activity

Title of Culminating Activity: *Traces of Life*

Cycle Theme: Perspectives

Duration: 30 minutes

Gateway: The yearning for deep connection

Materials Needed: loose-leaf paper

Connections to the Theme: After studying our unit on the Holocaust, let's take a moment to revisit the pictures we traced at the beginning of our journey together. Let's consider the perspective of one child.

Objectives: To reflect the growth our learning has created in our own perspectives. To empathize and identify with those affected by the Holocaust. To honor their memories by spending time with something personal and reflective of their individual identities. To review what we have learned about Auschwitz and antisemitism. To apply our broad learning to a specific experience.

Directions for the activity:

- Gently remove your picture from the wall and spend some silent time with it.
 - Knowing that this was drawn by a child in Auschwitz, reconsider this picture.
 - Reread your paragraph on the back.
 - Gaze at it for a little while and take it in.
- After you've taken some time to reflect, open a new Google Doc and write 300-350 words:
 - Paragraph 1: How has your understanding of this picture shifted since you first traced it? How has the tone of the picture changed? How do you "read" the images in the picture differently?
 - Paragraph 2: How has your connection to this picture evolved? Do you feel differently about it? Explain your answer.
 - Paragraph 3: Be this child's advocate. Convince your reader through a thoughtful and nuanced argument that this little picture is just as important as (or more important than) your textbooks and other resources that are frequently used to teach history.
- You may keep this picture to remind you of what you've learned in this unit.

Culminating Seminar: How does knowing the background of these pictures change your interpretation of them? How do you "read" them differently now?