

## ☀ Values

- Courage
- Resourcefulness
- Generosity
- Shrewdness
- Sacrifice
- Cleverness
- Social Emotional Learning

## ☀ Reflection Questions

Can you imagine yourself making the kind of sacrifices Oskar Schindler did for strangers?

Why were Jewish people treated so badly by Nazis? Can you imagine being held captive?

Is there racial hatred in your community or our country? What can you do about it?

## ☀ Lessons Learned

It is possible to overcome “impossible” odds to help people help themselves.

Many people survived the Holocaust by working together and helping each other.

Business people have a responsibility to protect the human rights of their workers.

Racial hatred can lead people to do unspeakable acts against their fellow human beings.

# Oskar Schindler

Oskar and Emilie Schindler

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Through his creative, daring, and never-ending acts of courage during World War II, Oskar Schindler saved thousands of Jews from death. In order to protect his Jewish workers from being seized by the Nazis, Schindler falsified factory records: old people were 20 years younger; children were listed as adults; lawyers, doctors, and engineers were registered as metalworkers, mechanics, and draftsmen - all trades considered essential to war production. Schindler's compassion and sacrifice were unstinting. He spent every bit of money and even traded his wife's jewelry for food, clothing, medicine and schnapps to bribe the SS investigators. “Schindler's List is not a Jewish story, or a German story, but a human story,” says filmmaker, Steven Spielberg. ‘It is my hope that Schindler's List will inspire this generation and future generations to seek an end to racial hatred.’”

## ☀ Language Arts: SEL & Diversity and Film Studies

Have students study other movies made by Steven Spielberg. Why did he make this one? Watch *Schindler's List* and have students write essays about what affected them most. In 1993, African-American students in Oakland, CA were kicked out of a theatre showing *Schindler's List*. Why? When Steven Spielberg later spoke at their school, they asked him to make a movie on the Black Passage. Which movie did he make next? What are the similarities and differences between the Holocaust and the Black Passage?

## ☀ Social Studies: Diversity

Request a *Schindler's List* Study Guide from Facing History and Ourselves at [www.facinghistory.org](http://www.facinghistory.org); visit [www.facing.org](http://www.facing.org) to learn about the dangers of indifference, the values of civility and creative approaches to the challenges we face and opportunities for positive change. Organize a trip to Washington D.C. to visit the Holocaust Museum. Have students pair up as buddies to experience this together or visit their website [www.holocaust-trc.org](http://www.holocaust-trc.org). Contact the Survivors of the Shoah Visual History Foundation at [www.sfi.usc.edu](http://www.sfi.usc.edu) and invite a concentration camp survivor to visit your class and respond to students' questions.

## ☀ Community Service: Service Learning

Encourage students to stand up for the rights of those who are being oppressed. Write letters to our President and Senators urging them to help stop genocide and war.