



*Sedai has now collected over 150 interviews, totaling almost 400 hours of recorded history, photos and documents of Japanese Canadians. Contributors have generously shared their photos/documents, family histories and life experience from immigrating to Canada, experiences in the first and second world wars, resettlement following World War II and their life experiences which followed. Sedai continues to add to its collection, interviewing Japanese Canadians and accepting photos and documents. Although these interviews have been videotaped, there is still an ongoing need for further funding to edit, transcribe & digitize the 150 interviews.*

## **Student Activities Using Primary Sources**

### **Task:**

Open the [SEDAL Archive](#) section of the website.

1. Look at all the photographs in the [Pre-War Photos](#).
1. Make a list of the kinds of jobs that Japanese Canadians were doing before World War II.
2. Write a brief description of one (or more) of the photographs and then write your personal comments about what you see.

2. Look at all of the photos in the [Internment Camps](#) section. (They follow the “Pre-War Photos”.)

1. What would teenagers like the least and the most about the experience of forced relocation?
2. What would adults like the least and the most?
3. Write a brief description of one (or more) of the photographs and then write your personal comments about what you see.

*Go to the [Interviews 2004-2006](#) section. (Note that you can read transcripts of the videos in this section by clicking “View Transcript” below each video.)*

3. Listen to the [interview with Fred](#).

1. When and why did his parents come to Canada?
2. What negative and positive experiences did his father have initially in Vancouver
3. How did the attitude of Alfred Wilson and Howard Green contrast with that of Henry Angus?

4. What happened to Fred's father when war broke out between Japan and Canada?
5. What happened to Fred's mother?
6. What happened to Fred? Why?

4. Listen to the [interview with Mitsuyoshi](#).

1. Why did he go to Japan after WW II?
2. Why was it difficult for him there?

5. Listen to the [interview with Pat](#).

1. What happened to Pat when war broke out?
2. What did she like and dislike about the camp at Slocan in the B.C. interior?

6. Based on the interviews with Fred, Mitsuyoshi, and Pat (and the others, if you choose to listen to them), what overall impressions do you have of the Japanese Canadian experience? Use at least three terms from the [Glossary of Terms](#).

7. To what extent does each of the following terms apply to what happened to the Japanese Canadians? Explain your decision in each case.

1. alien-

2. assimilation-

3. civil rights-

4. discrimination-

5. genocide-

6. incarceration-

7. national security-

8. prejudice-