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AttitudesSkillsKnowledge: Our Human Story

While there is much to be celebrated regarding “Our Human Story”, we must, once and for all, put an end to genocide and related atrocities. Focusing on geographic aspects of genocide and human rights, the GAI strives to carry forward the USHMM’s message: “Never Again: What You Do Matters”.

Curious: A kid explorer seeks to understand the causes and consequences of genocide and conflict and is willing to take on the challenges that come with tackling such a difficult topic.

Responsible: A kid explorer is motivated by a responsibility to all people and cultures regardless of our differences, and remembers: “Then they came for the Jews, and I did not speak out—because I was not a Jew. Then they came for me—and there was no one left to speak for me.”

Empowered: A kid explorer acts on a sense of respect and responsibility, and takes to heart the idea of “being the change you wish to see in the world” to advocate for fundamental human rights and an end to genocide.

Observation: A kid explorer shines a light on the tragic history of genocide and atrocities using photographs, first-hand testimonials, maps, reports, artifacts, and other resources.

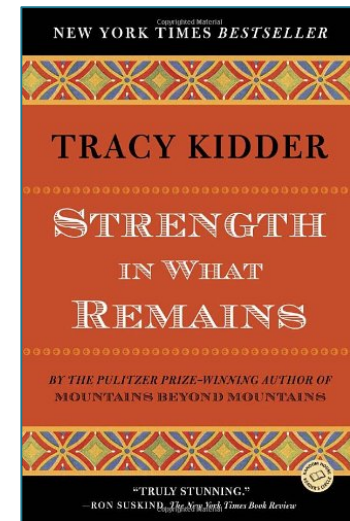
Communication: A kid explorer is a storyteller, finding respectful but compelling ways to speak for those whose voices have been silenced.

Collaboration: A kid explorer works with—and works for—classmates, teachers, survivors, advocates, and all who wish to advance human rights and put an end to genocide.

Problem Solving: A kid explorer evaluates problems and suggests actionable answers to promote human rights and work towards ending conflict and genocide.

“Exploring where we came from, how we live today, and where we find ourselves tomorrow” is critically important especially when cycles of violence and hatred are repeated: The Holocaust, the Rwandan Genocide, and modern-day Sudan and Syria.

Through annual workshops hosted across the state of Iowa, the GAI’s “Geography, Conflict, and Human Rights” workshop provides K-12 educators with the knowledge, motivation, and teaching techniques to engage their students in an effort to combat genocide and human rights abuses and stand up for the fundamental rights of all people.



Adapted from NGS; created by Mollie Ullestad, GAI Undergraduate Research Assistant