

Teaching Fourth-Grade **Nonfiction Text Features**

Using *Attack on Pearl Harbor* from the **Heroes of World War II (Alternator Books™)** Series

Features that help students understand how an informational text is organized:

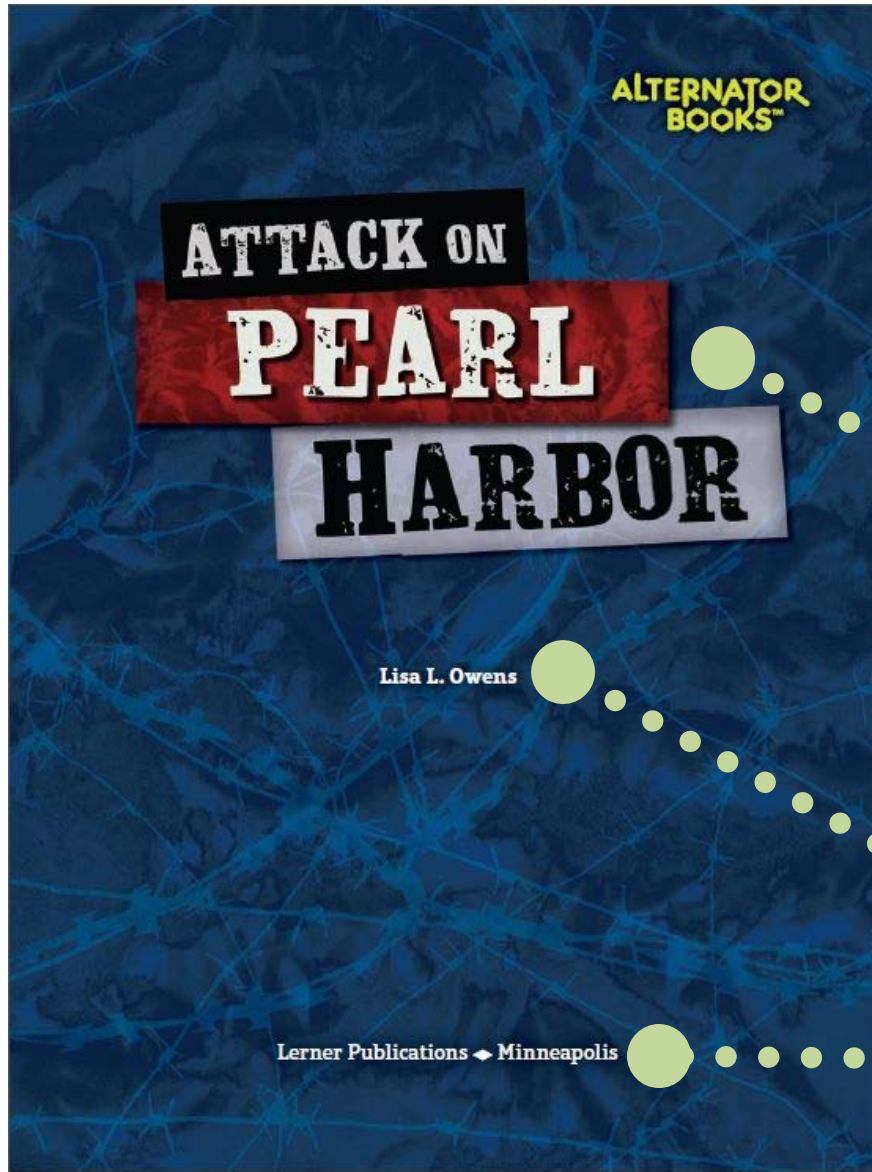
FEATURE	PURPOSE
Title page	Confirms title, author’s name, and publisher
Contents Page	Identifies the topics to be presented and their order
Chapter name, heading, or subheading	Helps students identify main topics on a quick pass through the text
Page number	Helps students with sequence of ideas and aids in using the index
Glossary	Defines new and important words
Further reading and websites	Helps students expand their knowledge of the topic by listing other informational texts in print or on the Internet
Index	Lists the main ideas in the text, with page numbers to help students find them

Visual aids that help students understand informational texts:

VISUAL AID	PURPOSE
Photo, drawing, or illustration	Shows how something in the text looked or might have looked

Features that point out important or additional information:

FEATURE	PURPOSE
Bold print	Tells students a word is new and important; sometimes a glossary term
Italic Print	Tells students the word is supposed to stand out. It may be for emphasis or because it is a book name, newspaper, movie title, foreign word, or the directional for a photo or illustration.
Caption	These words tell you about the picture on the page. A caption is usually close to the picture it goes with. Sometimes a caption will tell you if the picture is a photo or a drawing. A caption may also give you additional information that is not in the main text.
Label	Identifies important points of interest in a diagram or photograph
Afterword	Winds down the informational text; sets forth the names of those with whom the author worked to create the book



TITLE PAGE: This page tells you what the name, or the title, of the book is. It also tells you who wrote the book and who published it.

TITLE

AUTHOR

PUBLISHER

TABLE OF CONTENTS:

This lists the chapters in your book by chapter title and the pages on which they begin. The contents might also list features, such as the index, that are at the end of the book.

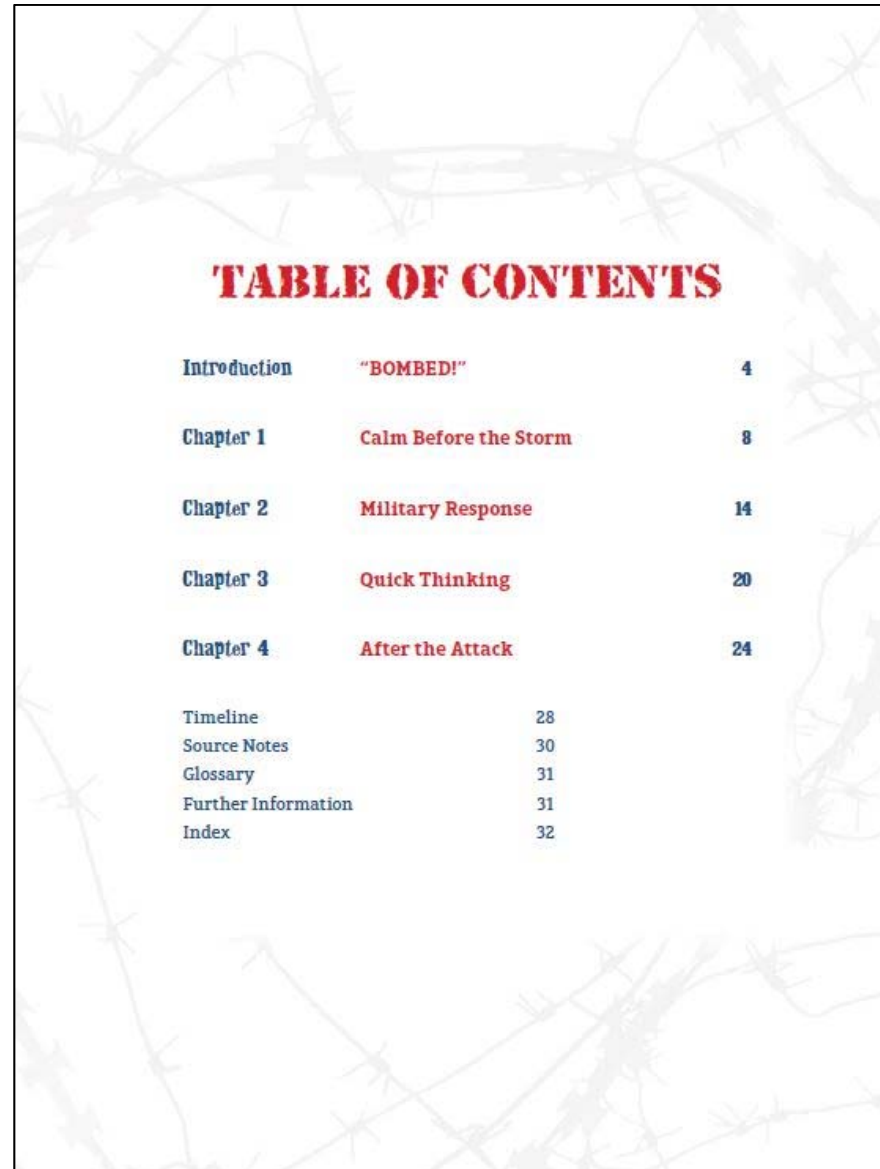


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CHAPTER TITLE: This tells you what topic will be discussed in the chapter. Chapter titles often give you the main ideas of the book.

CAPTION: These words tell you about the picture on the page. A caption is usually close to the picture it goes with. Sometimes a caption will tell you if the picture is a photo or a drawing. A caption may also give you additional information that is not in the main text.

CHAPTER 1 **CALM BEFORE THE STORM**

Army nurse Revella Guest loved life in Hawaii. She and her friends worked hard and enjoyed parties and dances on their nights off. Guest knew that the United States might join World War II. But to most people living in Hawaii, the war seemed far away. On December 6, 1941, Guest returned home early after a dinner with her friends. She never could have imagined what the next morning would bring.



Pearl Harbor
before the attack

TEXT OR MAIN TEXT: These are the words on a page that describe the main ideas of the book. Main text is usually smaller than chapter titles or headings.

SIDEBARS:

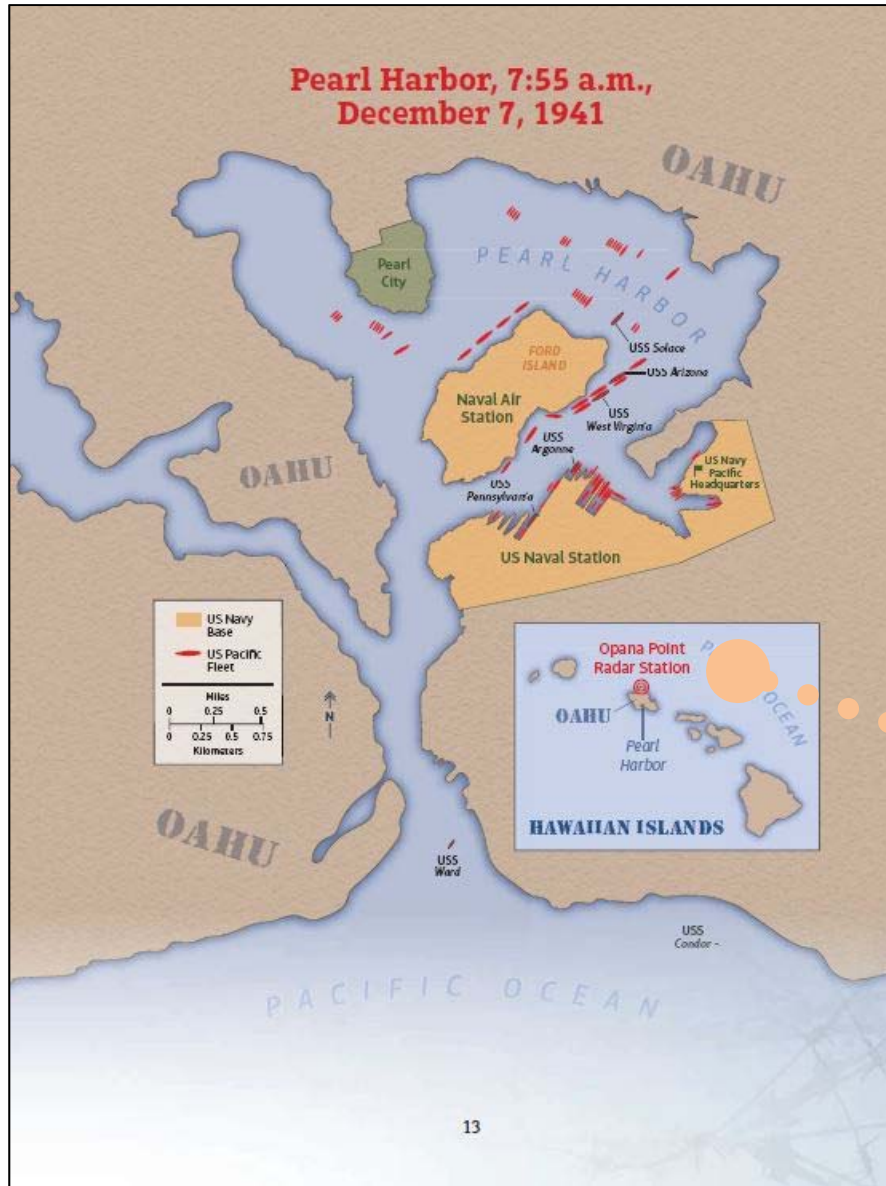
These are short bits of text with their own headers. They are usually boxed and separated from the main text. Sidebars give additional information.

2 miles (3.2 km) from the harbor entrance. American submarines were not allowed to be in that area. The USS *Ward* was in a better position to investigate, so the *Condor* alerted the *Ward* of the periscope. But the *Ward* did not find a Japanese submarine until 6:45 a.m. The *Ward*'s skipper reported the submarine, but the commander of the US fleet decided not to take immediate action.

At 7:02 a.m., military personnel at the Opana Point radar station, about 30 miles (48 km) from Pearl Harbor, noticed that blips on the radar that stood for aircraft were getting larger. That meant planes were flying toward Pearl Harbor. But officers in charge of the station assumed they were the US Air Force's B-17s, which were scheduled to arrive from California.

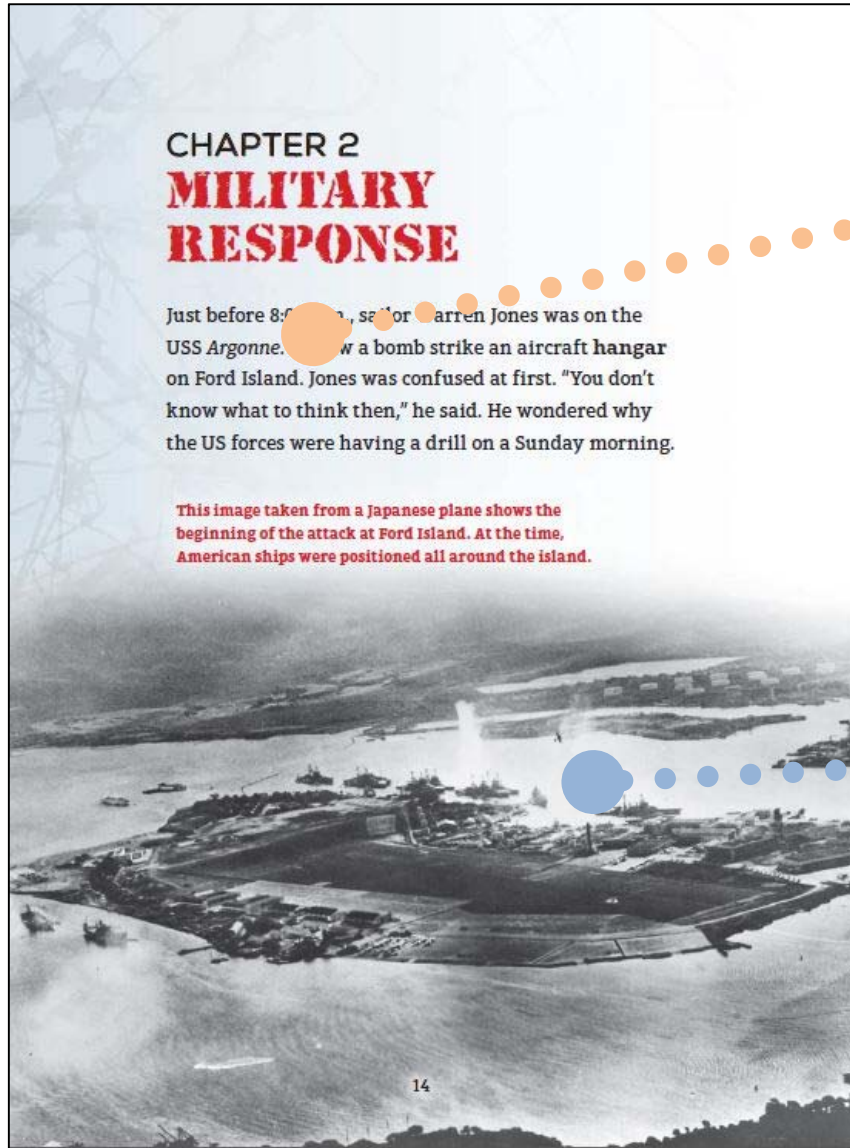
STEM HIGHLIGHT

Radar senses faraway objects by sending radio waves and timing how long it takes the waves to return after bouncing off an object. During World War II, radar was used to detect enemy ships and planes before they reached their targets. It was brand-new technology then, and servicemen using it at Pearl Harbor were still in training. Improvements to radar would eventually help the United States and its allies win the war.



MAP: This is a flat drawing that shows the shape and features of a place, such as a country, state, or city. The title of the map may be at the top of the page.

LABELS: These are words in a diagram that point out the important parts of the photo. On a map, labels name important features, such as rivers and cities.



ITALIC PRINT:

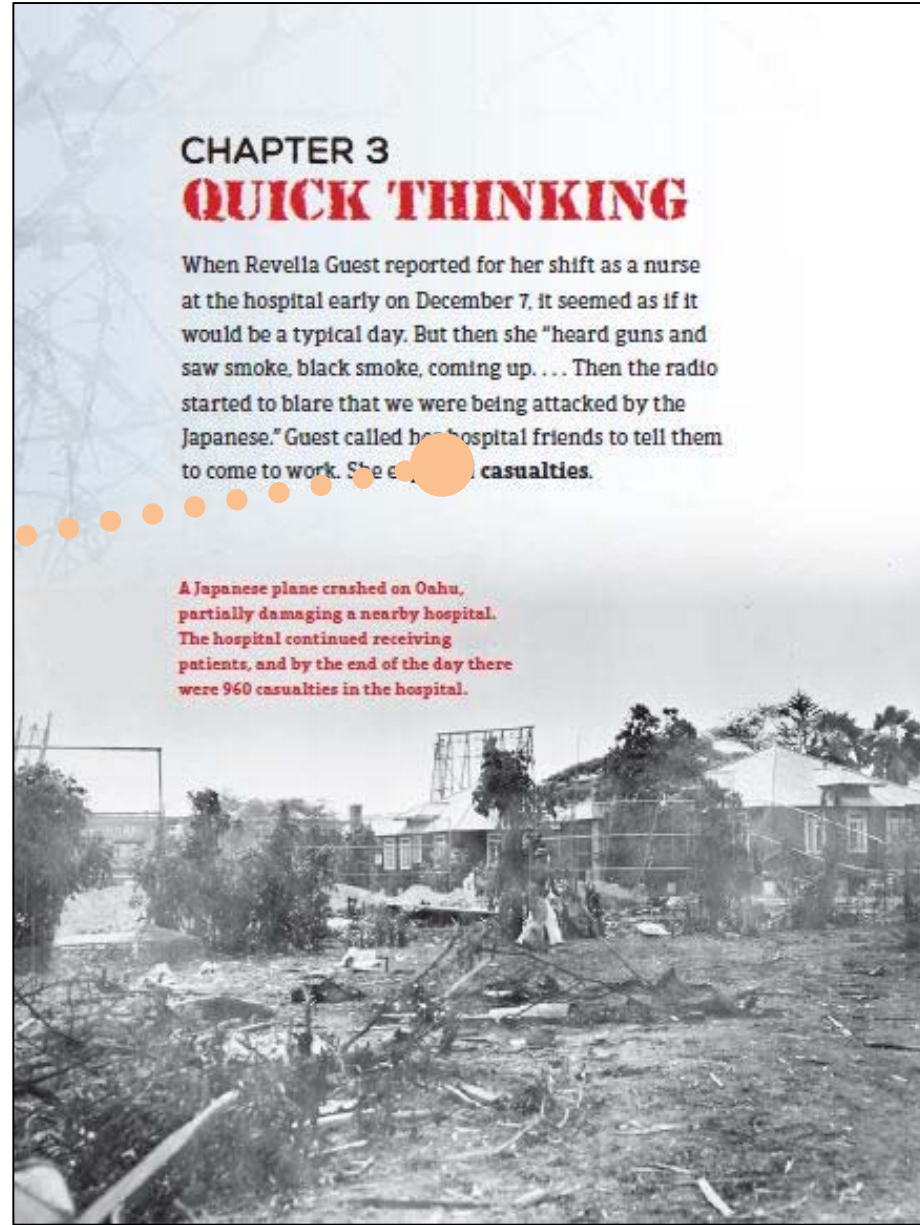
This type is slanted to make a word or phrase stand out. Italicized words may be names of books, newspapers, movies, ships, or foreign words. They may also tell you which caption goes with which photo.

PHOTOS:

The photos or pictures in a book show what the words, or text, describe. Looking at photos can help you understand the meaning of the text.

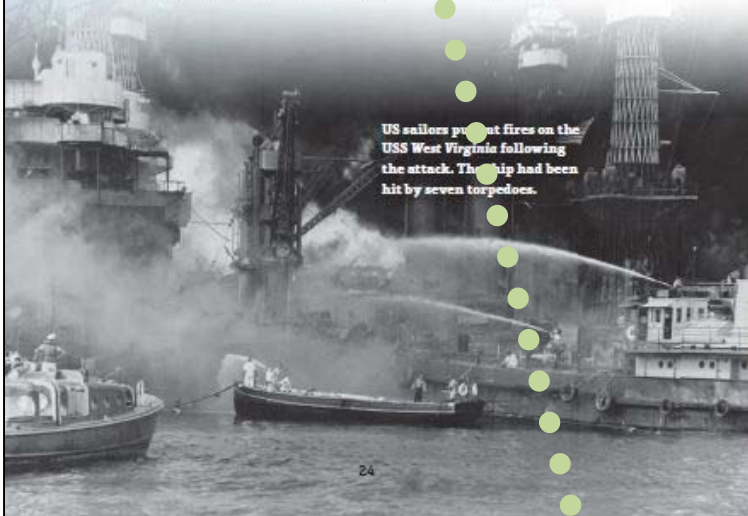
BOLD PRINT:

Words in bold print have thicker letters. They tell you the word or idea is important. They are also usually in a glossary, or a list with meanings, at the end of the book.



CHAPTER 4 **AFTER THE ATTACK**

By Monday, December 8, Pearl Harbor was no longer under attack. But grim reminders of the raid were everywhere. Neighborhoods were littered with wreckage. The air was thick with haze from the bombings. Oil from sinking ships was pouring into the harbor. And lifeless bodies were washing up onshore. The attack had claimed 3,581 US casualties, including 103 civilians. Nineteen US ships and 328 aircraft were



US sailors put out fires on the USS West Virginia following the attack. The ship had been hit by seven torpedoes.

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either damaged or destroyed. People struggled to process what had happened—and what would come next.

Life on Oahu had changed. Thirteen-year-old Helen Griffith Livermont carried a gas mask and had a strict curfew. She said, “No one wanted to venture out in case the guards mistook us for the enemy!”

The United States feared another attack. And soon thousands of civilians, including families of the military personnel on the island, were evacuated to the US mainland for their own safety.

SUPPORTING THE WAR

After the attack on Pearl Harbor, the United States came together to support the war effort. Within days



Many women joined the workforce during World War II. The women pictured made oxygen masks, which were often worn by pilots.

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HEADINGS AND SUBHEADINGS:

These separate the main text into smaller chunks of information. A heading tells you what the section below is about.

GLOSSARY:

This list calls out the important words in a book. The glossary proves the meaning, or definition, of the word. You can find the glossary near the end of the book.

FURTHER READING: This is a list of books and websites on the same subject as the book you just read. The list is at the end of your book.

GLOSSARY

allies: countries that support one another in a military effort

casualties: people wounded or killed during war

civilians: people who aren't members of the military

cryptologist: a scientist who studies coded messages

dive-bomber: a military plane that dives directly at a target to release bombs or gunfire

hangar: a shelter for housing and repairing aircraft

periscope: an instrument with lenses and mirrors, used to see something that would otherwise be blocked. Submarines use periscopes to look above water.

skipper: the leader of a ship

FURTHER INFORMATION

The Attack on Pearl Harbor

<http://www.watchknowlearn.org/Video.aspx?VideoID=27327>

Cahill, Bryon. *Freedom from Fear*. South Egremont, MA: Red Chair, 2013.

Ducksters: World War II

http://www.ducksters.com/history/world_war_ii

Garland, Sherry. *Voices of Pearl Harbor*. Gretna, LA: Pelican, 2013.

Pearl Harbor Facts for Kids

<http://www.american-historama.org/1929-1945-depression-ww2-era/pearl-harbor-facts.htm>

Roesler, Jill. *Eyewitness to the Bombing of Pearl Harbor*. Mankato, MN: Child's World, 2016.

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INDEX: This list at the end of the book follows the order of the alphabet. The index helps you find main ideas. The words in the index are followed by page numbers. These numbers tell you where to go in a book to find the main ideas.