NAME DATE CLASS

# Biography Activity

## World War II and the Holocaust

### Franklin Delano Roosevelt (1882–1945)

President Franklin D. Roosevelt was the only U.S. president elected to serve four terms in office. He led the United States during two major crises—the Great Depression and World War II. Before Pearl Harbor, President Roosevelt convinced the U.S. Congress to send “all aid short of war” to Britain and the Soviet Union to help fight the Nazis. The United States sent ships and guns in exchange for military bases in Britain. After the attack on Pearl Harbor, the United States entered the war in earnest. Roosevelt led the war effort until his death in office in 1945.

During the Great Depression, Roosevelt defeated the incumbent president, Herbert Hoover, and began implementing a social and economic reform program called the New Deal. New Deal programs such as Social Security continue today.

**1. Inferring** How did the Great Depression prepare Roosevelt for the war effort?

**2. Constructing Arguments** What do you think was Roosevelt’s greatest achievement as president? Give reasons for your opinion.