Valour Canada

Remembrance Day Learning Activities

This package is designed to provide ideas for Remembrance Day learning activities.

Learning Objectives:

- Recall and commemorate loss resulting from war.
- **Lesson** Examine and discuss the historical and contemporary importance of Remembrance Day.





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CANADIANS
TO THEIR MILITARY
HERITAGE

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Remembrance Day Questions and Activities

The following document lists some learning activities for students and educators to complete in coordination with Remembrance Day events or to correspond with specific curriculum requirements. These questions and activities can be completed by groups, Think-Pair-Share's, or as individuals.

For young learners (Grades 4 to 7)

- 1. What is Remembrance Day? In Canada, what date does Remembrance Day fall upon and why was that date chosen?
- 2. Why was the poppy chosen as the symbol of Remembrance Day? Why is it important to wear a poppy during the month of November?
- 3. Study a piece of war art from the online collection at the <u>Canadian War Museum</u> ¹. Why did you select your piece of art? What do the colours symbolize? What does the artwork represent?
- 4. Prepare a presentation about how you/your family commemorate Remembrance Day.
- 5. Write your own poem about Remembrance Day. Possible themes include: valour, courage, citizenship, sacrifice, duty, and honour.

For advanced learners (Grade 8 and up)

- 6. Research and write a 1-page summary about a Canadian war cemetery in Europe.
- 7. Visit your city's local military/war monument. What images and/or words are depicted and inscribed? To what extent are war memorials sites of memory?
- 8. Make a video of images/symbols that you deem important to Remembrance Day. Why did you select these images? Present this video during your school's Remembrance Day ceremony.
- 9. Visit the Library and Archives Canada website, <u>100 Stories: Canadians in the First World War</u>². Select and research a soldier listed. Did they survive the war? What was their legacy? Where are they buried? Write your answers in paragraph form.
- 10. Analyze the poem, "In Flanders Fields," by John McCrae. Write two paragraphs, one discussing his use of symbolism and the other, the historical context of the war. Why do you believe this poem is still recited at Remembrance Day ceremonies today?

¹ See https://www.warmuseum.ca/collections/search-results/?q=&page_num=1

² See https://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/military-heritage/first-world-war/100-stories/Pages/introduction.aspx