

WE REMEMBER

IN FLANDERS FIELDS

Read the story behind the poem.

Originally written notes.

PPTx about Remembrance Day

PDF worksheets. Writing activities.

Quiz & Answer key.



ELT BUZZ TEACHING RESOURCES

In Flanders Fields

By: Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae, MD (1872-1918)
Canadian Army



In Flanders Fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.



McCrae's "In Flanders Fields" remains to this day one of the most memorable war poems ever written. It is a lasting legacy of the terrible battle in the Ypres salient in the spring of 1915. Although he had been a doctor for years and had served in the South African War, it was impossible to get used to the suffering, the screams, and the blood here, and Major John McCrae had seen and heard enough in his dressing station to last him a lifetime. It had been an ordeal that he had hardly thought possible. McCrae later wrote of it:

"I wish I could embody on paper some of the varied sensations of that seventeen days... Seventeen days of Hades! At the end of the first day if anyone had told us we had to spend seventeen days there, we would have folded our hands and said it could not have been done."

In the nearby cemetery, McCrae could see the wild poppies that sprang up in the ditches in that part of Europe, and he spent twenty minutes of precious rest time scribbling fifteen lines of verse in a notebook.

"The poem was exactly an exact description of the scene in front of us both. He used the word blow in that line because the poppies actually were being blown that morning by a gentle east wind. It never occurred to me at that time that it would ever be published. It seemed to me just an exact description of the scene." Cyril Allinson, a twenty-two year old sergeant-major watched McCrae write the poem

McCrae died in 1918 at 46 years old as most men did during the war, of pneumonia.

In Flanders Fields

In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below:

We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved, and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields

Punch
Dec 8. 1915

John McCrae



Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae, MD (1872-1918)



Name: _____

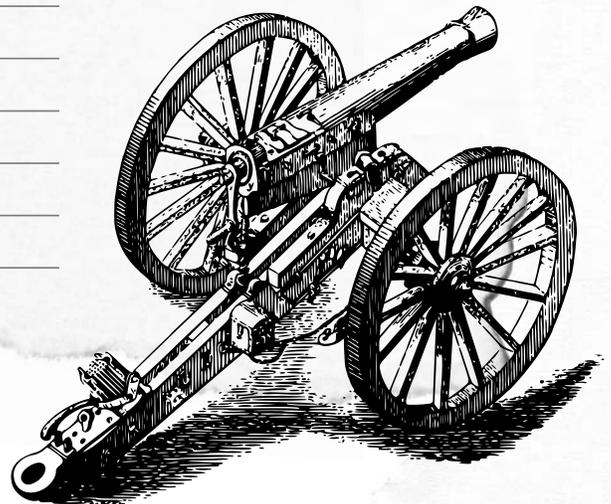
Date: _____

LETTER FROM THE FRONT

Using historical accounts and other references, adopt a soldier's persona and draft a letter to your family. Talk about what it's like fighting on the front lines, how they feel about the cause they're fighting for, and what they're dreaming of.

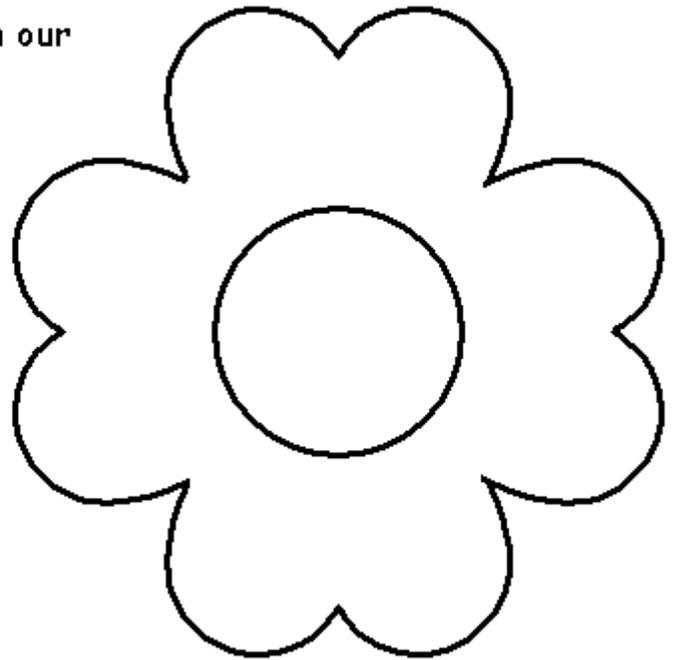


A large rectangular area with a torn top edge, containing horizontal lines for writing a letter. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across most of the width of the page.



Unscramble the letters to find the words in our

Remembrance Day Anagram



Hidden Word

(solve the circled letters):

a r w

a b e r r v y

a c g e r o u

d e e f m o r

a c e e p

p p p e i o s

m a r y

b e e m n r v o

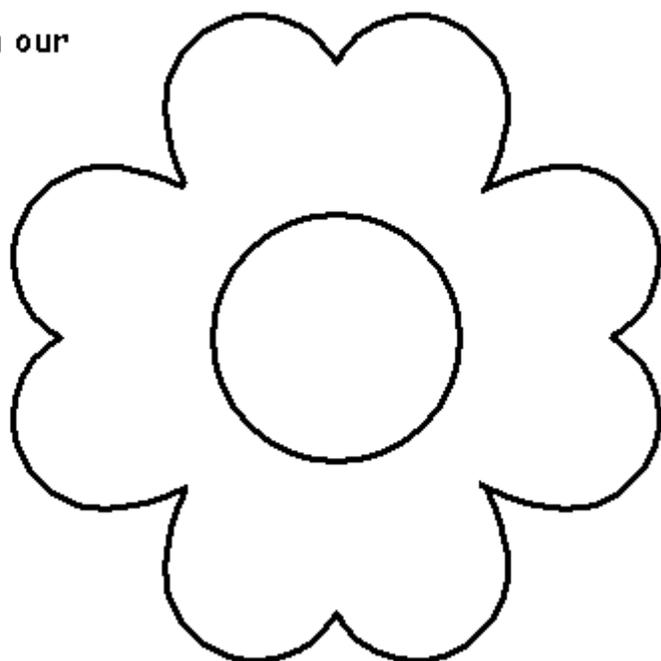
a e e n v r t

d e i r o l s

a e h r t w

Unscramble the letters to find the words in our

Remembrance Day Anagram



Hidden Word

(solve the circled letters):

remembrance

a r w

war

a b e r r v y

bravery

a c g e r o u

courage

d e e f m o r

freedom

a c e e p

peace

p p p e i o s

poppies

m a r y

army

b e e m n r v o

November

a e e n v r t

veteran

d e i r o l s

soldier

a e h r t w

wreath

Remembrance Day Quiz

What do you know about Remembrance Day?

Circle the correct answer.

1. Remembrance Day is a memorial day observed in many countries:
 - a. To remember members of the armed forces who have died in the line of duty since WWI.
 - b. To remember all the people who have died in wars since WWI.
 - c. To celebrate the end of WWI.

2. Remembrance Day is also known as:
 - a. Armistice day
 - b. Veteran's day
 - c. Poppy Day
 - d. All of the above



Royal British Legion Poppy

3. On November 11th, 1918:
 - a. World War I officially ended;
 - b. Fighting formally ended at 11 a.m.
 - c. Germany signed the Armistice (agreement which ended the WWI)
 - d. All of the above

4. Remembrance Day is:
 - a. A holiday in all countries where it is observed.
 - b. Marked by special ceremonies by politicians and veterans at war memorials.
 - c. Marked by observing 2 minutes of silence at 11 a.m.
 - d. Answers b & c.

5. The emblem of Remembrance Day the red poppy is :
 - a. sold by veterans for a fixed price
 - b. sold for donations to raise money for veterans
 - c. given out at no charge



A Canadian Legion Poppy

6. The first remembrance poppy was worn in
 - a. The U.K.
 - b. The U.S.
 - c. Canada
7. The poppy became an emblem of Remembrance Day due to
 - a. The poem *In Flanders Fields* (by John McCrae)
 - b. The poem *We Shall Keep the Faith* (by Moina Michael)

Answer Key

1. a
2. d
3. d
4. d
5. b
6. b
7. a

Please visit us!

The largest and most complete lesson library on the web.

ELT

buzz 

Everything in English language teaching



FOLLOW US ON



Teachers Pay Teachers