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We hope you find the information on our website and resources useful. This resource contains potentially sensitive and/or upsetting topics that may emotionally impact on students you use it with due to their experiences in their past. It is your responsibility to consider whether it is appropriate to use this resource with your students. If you do use this resource, it is your responsibility to ensure that appropriate support is available for anyone affected.

Know your class: some content may be too upsetting for some children.

Remembrance Day

Remembrance Day is a **tribute** to people in the **armed forces** who fought and died for their country. The day gives people the opportunity to remember those who worked hard to help their country.

The First World War

The First World War began in 1914. It lasted for just over four years and ended in 1918.

When Remembrance Day Happens

Remembrance Day happens every year. It is on the 11th November because this is the date that the First World War ended.

The time that the war ended was 11 a.m. and people take part in a moment of silence to remember all those that died. This happens in lots of countries around the world.

Why People Wear Red Poppies

Bright red poppies grew on the battlefields after the First World War had ended. That's why people now wear poppies on Remembrance Day.

Poppies have become such a symbol for Remembrance Day that some people actually call Remembrance Day 'Poppy Day'.

People are given the chance to buy a poppy each year. The tradition of selling poppies began in 1921. Some of the money raised from the sale of poppies goes to charities. These charities use the money to try to help injured members of the armed forces and their families.

The First Remembrance Day in Britain

This is a diary entry that was written on the first Remembrance Day that was held in Britain.

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11th November 1919

As I stood outside my house, there were lots of people standing in silence. It was an incredible sight.

Men were looking at the floor and holding their caps against their chests. Women wiped tears from their eyes and young children stood very still. Every person knew why they were taking part in this event. Amazingly, I even saw a horse stop and lower its head like it knew what was happening.

I will never forget this day.

Glossary

armed forces:	A country's army, navy and air force.
tribute:	An act, statement or gift that is intended to show gratitude, respect or admiration.

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Questions

1. In which year did the First World War end? Tick one.

   - ○ 1915
   - ○ 1916
   - ○ 1917
   - ○ 1918

2. Number the events from 1-4 to show the order that they happened in.
   The first one has been done for you.

   - [ ] The First World War ended.
   - [1] The First World War started.
   - [ ] The first Remembrance Day happened.
   - [ ] The first poppies were sold.

3. At what time do people take part in a moment of silence on Remembrance Day? Tick one.

   - ○ 8 a.m.
   - ○ 9 a.m.
   - ○ 10 a.m.
   - ○ 11 a.m.

4. Draw **three** lines and complete each sentence.

Poppies have become a symbol...	'Poppy Day'.
People are given the chance to buy...	a poppy each year.
Some people actually call Remembrance Day...	for Remembrance Day.

5. After the First World War had ended, what grew on the battlefields?

   _____

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6. Fill in the missing words.

   Women wiped _____ from their eyes and young _____ stood very still.

7. Why do you think that the author of the diary entry wrote that they **will never forget this day**?

   _____

   _____

   _____

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Answers

1. In which year did the First World War end? Tick one.

   ○ 1915
   ○ 1916
   ○ 1917
   ✓ **1918**

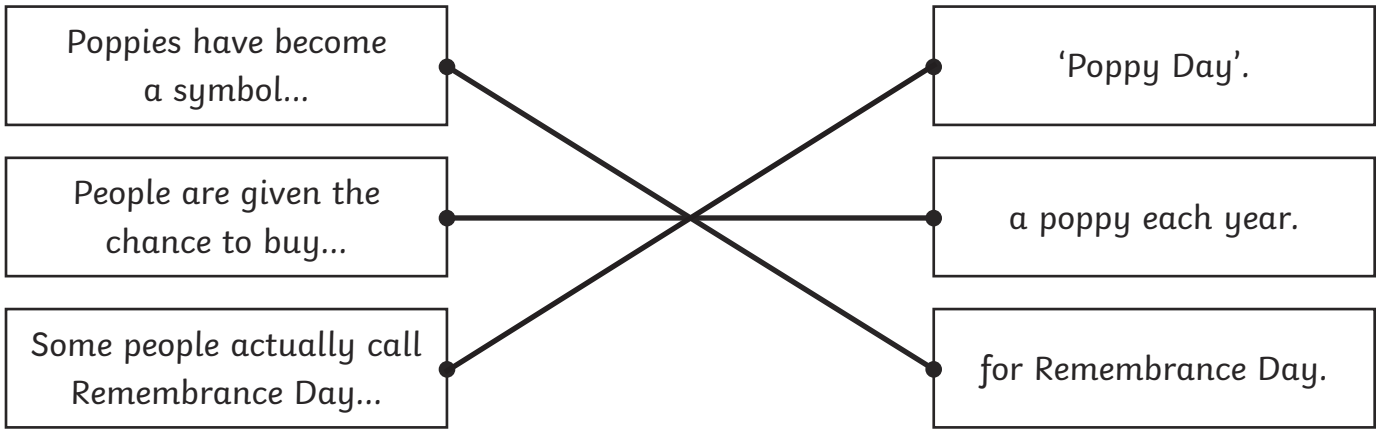
2. Number the events from 1-4 to show the order that they happened in.
   The first one has been done for you.

   [2] The First World War ended.
   [1] The First World War started.
   [3] The first Remembrance Day happened.
   [4] The first poppies were sold.

3. At what time do people take part in a moment of silence on Remembrance Day? Tick one.

   ○ 8 a.m.
   ○ 9 a.m.
   ○ 10 a.m.
   ✓ **11 a.m.**

4. Draw **three** lines and complete each sentence.



5. After the First World War had ended, what grew on the battlefields?

   After the First World War had ended, bright red poppies grew on the battlefields.

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6. Fill in the missing words.

   Women wiped **tears** from their eyes and young **children** stood very still.

7. Why do you think that the author of the diary entry wrote that they **will never forget this day**?

   Pupils' own responses, such as: I think that the author of the diary entry wrote that line because the people outside were so respectful that it made the silence such a memorable moment.

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Remembrance Day

Remembrance Day is a **tribute** to members of the **armed forces** who fought and died for their country. This important day happens every year and gives people the opportunity to remember those who worked hard to protect their country.

The First World War

In 1914, a world war started. This was the beginning of the First World War. After just over four years of battle, the First World War ended in 1918.

When Remembrance Day Happens

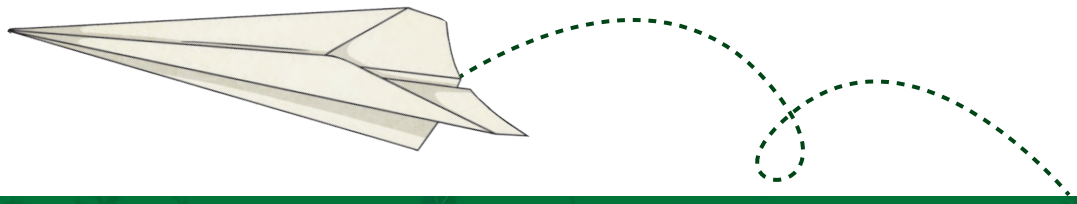
Remembrance Day is on the 11th November because that is the date that the countries involved in the First World War agreed to end it. The time that the war ended was 11 a.m. and many people take part in a moment of silence at this time to remember all those that died. This tribute happens in lots of countries around the world.

Poppies were first sold in 1921 and they have become the main symbol for Remembrance Day. In fact, many people actually call it 'Poppy Day'.

Each year, people have the opportunity to buy a poppy. Some of the money raised from the sale of poppies goes to charities that aim to help to improve the lives of wounded members of the armed forces and their families.

Why People Wear Red Poppies

After the First World War had ended, beautiful, red poppies grew on the battlefields of France and Belgium. That's why people now wear poppies on Remembrance Day.



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The First Remembrance Day in Britain

This is a diary entry that was written on the first Remembrance Day that was held in Britain.

11th November 1919

Today was so emotional. It's been a whole year since the First World War ended so King George V had a really thoughtful idea. He asked the people of Britain to be silent for one minute at 11 a.m. The reason that he chose that exact time is because that's when the war officially ended last year.

As I stood on the street outside my house, the silence that covered the entire area was heartwarming.

At 10:59 a.m., a horse and cart appeared at the end of the road. Suddenly, the cart stopped. It was almost as if the horse wanted to make sure that no more noise would be heard.

Men were staring at the floor holding their caps against their hearts. Women wiped tears from their eyes and even young children stood as still as statues. Everyone knew why they were joined together at that moment.

This day will stay with me forever.

Glossary

armed forces:	A country's army, navy and air force.
tribute:	An act, statement or gift that is intended to show gratitude, respect or admiration.

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Questions

1. How long did the First World War last for? Tick one.

   - ○ just over two years
   - ○ just over three years
   - ○ just over four years
   - ○ just over five years

2. Number the events from 1-4 to show the order that they happened in.

   - ☐ The diary entry was written.
   - ☐ The First World War came to an end.
   - ☐ Poppies were first sold.
   - ☐ The First World War began.

3. The author of the diary entry said that **the silence that covered the entire area was heartwarming**. Which of these words best describes how they felt? Tick one.

   - ○ pleased
   - ○ angry
   - ○ confused
   - ○ bored

4. Draw **four** lines and complete each sentence.

This tribute happens...	and they have become the main symbol for Remembrance Day.
Poppies were first sold in 1921...	the First World War ended in 1918.
It was almost as if the horse wanted...	in lots of countries around the world.
After just over four years of battle,...	to make sure that no more noise would be heard.

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5. Where did beautiful, red poppies grow?

_____

6. Look at the first paragraph of the text.
   Find and copy one word that means the same as 'chance'.

_____

7. What evidence can you find in the diary entry that shows that the author agreed with King George V's idea of having a minute's silence?

_____

_____

_____

8. Summarise why you think that Remembrance Day is important using 30 words or fewer.

_____

_____

_____

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Answers

1. How long did the First World War last for? Tick one.

   - ○ just over two years
   - ○ just over three years
   - ✓ **just over four years**
   - ○ just over five years

2. Number the events from 1-4 to show the order that they happened in.

   - [3] The diary entry was written.
   - [2] The First World War came to an end.
   - [4] Poppies were first sold.
   - [1] The First World War began.

3. The author of the diary entry said that **the silence that covered the entire area was heartwarming**. Which of these words best describes how they felt? Tick one.

   - ✓ **pleased**
   - ○ angry
   - ○ confused
   - ○ bored

4. Draw **four** lines and complete each sentence.

This tribute happens...	and they have become the main symbol for Remembrance Day.
Poppies were first sold in 1921...	the First World War ended in 1918.
It was almost as if the horse wanted...	in lots of countries around the world.
After just over four years of battle,...	to make sure that no more noise would be heard.

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5. Where did beautiful, red poppies grow?

   After the First World War had ended, beautiful, red poppies grew on the battlefields of France and Belgium.

6. Look at the first paragraph of the text.
   Find and copy one word that means the same as 'chance'.

   opportunity

7. What evidence can you find in the diary entry that shows that the author agreed with King George V's idea of having a minute's silence?

   Pupils' own responses, such as: The author of the diary entry shows that they agreed with King George V's idea of a minute's silence because they said that the King had had a 'thoughtful idea'.

8. Summarise why you think that Remembrance Day is important using 30 words or fewer.

   Pupils' own responses, such as: I think that Remembrance Day is important because it helps people to pay their respects and to remember the people from the armed forces who served their country.

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Remembrance Day

Remembrance Day is a tribute to members of the armed forces who fought and died for their country. This poignant day happens every year and gives people the opportunity to remember those who gave up so much to protect their country.

The First World War

In 1914, it was announced that a world war had commenced. This was to be the beginning of the First World War. After just over four years of battle, the First World War ended in 1918. It is known as the Great War because it had such a huge impact on lots of people around the world.

When Remembrance Day Happens

Remembrance Day happens on the 11th November because this is the date that the countries involved made an agreement to end the First World War at 11 a.m.

Annually, people take part in a moment of silence to remember all of those that died. This tradition takes place in many countries around the world.

Why People Wear Red Poppies

After the First World War had ended, beautiful, red poppies grew on the battlefields of France and Belgium. That's the reason why people now wear poppies on Remembrance Day.

Poppies were first sold in 1921 and they have since become the main symbol for Remembrance Day. In fact, many people actually call it 'Poppy Day'.

Each year, people have the opportunity to buy a poppy. Some of the money raised from the sale of poppies goes to charities that aim to help to improve the lives of wounded members of the armed forces and their families.

The First Remembrance Day in Britain

This is a diary entry that was written on the first Remembrance Day that was held in Britain.

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11th November 1919

It's been an entire year since the First World War came to an end so the King came up with a wonderful idea. A message was released from the palace on the 7th of November, which was published in the newspaper.

King George V asked the people of Britain to stop what they were doing and to pay their respects to all the members of the armed forces who had died protecting their country. His wish was for everyone to be silent for one minute at 11 a.m. because this was the time that the war finished last year.

As I stood on the frost-covered street outside my house, the silence that filled the surrounding area was incredible.

At 10:59 a.m., a horse and cart came to an immediate halt at the end of the cobbled road. I'm sure that the horse had made sure that the silence wasn't to be disturbed.

Grown men were staring at the floor clutching their caps tightly to their hearts. Women used tissues to dab their streaming tears and even young children stood frozen like statues. Every person, no matter their age, understood why they were joined together in that important moment.

This beautiful tribute was something that will stay with me forever.

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Questions

1. What was the First World War also known as? Tick one.

   ○ the Big War
   ○ Remembrance War
   ○ the Great War
   ○ the Long War

2. Number the events from 1-4 to show the order that they happened in.

   ☐ The first Remembrance Day took place.
   ☐ The First World War began.
   ☐ An agreement was made to end the First World War.
   ☐ Poppies were first sold.

3. **Grown men were staring at the floor clutching their caps tightly to their hearts.**
   What does the word 'clutching' mean in this sentence?

   _____

4. Fill in the missing words.

   Women used tissues to dab their _____ tears and even young children stood _____ like statues.

5. In the text, what reason is given for why people now wear poppies on Remembrance Day?

   _____

6. The diary entry is dated 11th November 1919.
   What other evidence is there that it was written a long time ago?

   _____

   _____

   _____

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7. Look at the diary entry.
   Do you think that the people in the street were respectful during the one minute of silence?
   Explain your answer

   _____

   _____

   _____

8. Look at the section **Why People Wear Red Poppies**.
   Using the text, explain why poppies are so important.

   _____

   _____

   _____

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Answers

1. What was the First World War also known as? Tick one.

   ○ the Big War
   ○ Remembrance War
   ✓ **the Great War**
   ○ the Long War

2. Number the events from 1-4 to show the order that they happened in.

   [3] The first Remembrance Day took place.
   [1] The First World War began.
   [2] An agreement was made to end the First World War.
   [4] Poppies were first sold.

3. **Grown men were staring at the floor clutching their caps tightly to their hearts.**
   What does the word 'clutching' mean in this sentence?

   Pupils' own answers, such as: Clutching means to grab or grip onto something tightly.

4. Fill in the missing words.

   Women used tissues to dab their **streaming** tears and even young children stood **frozen** like statues.

5. In the text, what reason is given for why people now wear poppies on Remembrance Day?

   After the First World War had ended, beautiful, red poppies grew on the battlefields of France and Belgium. That's the reason why people now wear poppies on Remembrance Day.

6. The diary entry is dated 11th November 1919.
   What other evidence is there that it was written a long time ago?

   Pupils' own responses, such as: I can tell the diary entry was written a long time ago because there was a horse and cart in the street and also the street was cobbled.

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7. Look at the diary entry.
   Do you think that the people in the street were respectful during the one minute of silence? Explain your choice.

   Accept either 'yes' or 'no' provided that a full explanation is also given, such as: Yes, I think that the people were respectful because the author of the diary mentions that the silence was incredible. Also, they say that the people stood still and didn't make a sound. Even the children stopped what they were doing.

8. Look at the section **Why People Wear Red Poppies**.
   Using the text, explain why poppies are so important.

   Pupils' own responses, such as: Poppies are really important because, every time a poppy is bought, some of the money is given to the charities that are there to help wounded members of the armed forces and their families.

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