

### What's going on this week?

2018 marks 100 years since the end of World War One. It was called 'The Great War' and affected millions of people around the world. On 11th November 1918, an agreement called the Armistice was signed which silenced the guns after four years and four months of fighting. When this happened, many people celebrated, but it was also an extremely sad time as people reflected on the terrible impact that the war had.

#### Main question:

**Can remembering the past help us make a better future?**

#### Listen, think, share

- 🍏 Look at the poster and talk about what we already know about the Poppy Appeal. Does anyone know why this year is especially important?
- 🍏 Look through the assembly resource and read about Armistice 100. This means it's 100 years since the end of World War One. Discuss why we think it's important to remember something so devastating and how we can learn from it? Is it important to remember all the sacrifices people made and why is it relevant now?
- 🍏 Is anything happening close by to commemorate the Armistice 100? Have a look on the map found in the link on this week's useful websites. There are events happening all over the world!
- 🍏 Watch this week's useful video about the launch of this year's Poppy Appeal. What do we think about the installation? What does it represent?

#### Reflection

World War One was the biggest and most devastating war the world had ever seen. It caused huge amounts of devastation and hardship. When we think of this time, it's important to remember and respect all those involved.

### KS1 Focus

#### Question:

**Why do people wear poppies?**

#### Listen, think, share

- 🍏 Show a picture of someone wearing a poppy. Do we know why people might wear poppies? Talk about how on Remembrance Day every year on the 11th November, people remember the end of World War One. This year is a special year, as it's 100 years since the end of 'The Great War'.
- 🍏 Lots of people are producing special art with poppies or displaying them in shop windows. Have you seen anything in your community?
- 🍏 Do we know why it's poppies that are used on Remembrance Day? Explain that poppies represent the soldiers that fought in the war, as it was poppies that grew in the fields used for battle after the war ended.
- 🍏 Look at the different comments and thoughts about why people wear poppies and what poppies mean to them from the KS1 resource. Are they all the same? Why might they be different? Can we make a list of all the different reasons people wear or use poppies on the 11<sup>th</sup> November?
- 🍏 Talk about some of the other ways that people might remember important times or days from the past. E.g. having quiet time or using flowers.

#### Reflection

Poppies are worn by many people for lots of different reasons and can help us to remember about all the incredible things people did at that time.

### KS2 Focus

#### Question:

**How can we learn from the past?**

#### Listen, think, share

- 🍏 Talk about things from our past that we have learnt something from. Do we think we learn more from when things go wrong, when we make mistakes or when they go as planned? Why do we think this might be the case?
- 🍏 If we don't think about or reflect on things that have happened in the past, either to us or to others, can we still learn from it?
- 🍏 Talk about the different ways we can learn from things that happened in the past. E.g. writing poems, stories, through art, talking, setting up a tradition that you do each year e.g. a walk. Discuss the different benefits of these different ways.
- 🍏 Do we think it's always easy to remember or learn about difficult things that may have happened? For certain things, do we think it's still important to learn about them, even if it's hard. Why?
- 🍏 Look through the different examples provided in the KS2 resource showing the different ways people choose to think about and remember World War One. For each, talk about how they might help us to remember and if they have any wider impact for others and the wider community.

#### Reflection

There are many different ways to remember and to learn from the past. Some are visible expressions e.g. wearing a poppy or attaching giant poppies to cars and lampposts. Others are less visible but just as respectful such as being reflective, praying or holding a silence.

## KS2 Follow-up Ideas

**Option 1:** Show the children the poem 'In Flander's Fields' by John McCrae. Explain it was written during the war so the author did not know when it was going to end. Ask them to read the poem in their heads to begin with then aloud to a partner.

- Can you learn one line and recite it aloud to your partner?

Discuss the poem in more detail, looking at the language used and any other literary features. Consider the following questions:

- The guns **almost** drown out the sound of the larks above. Why do you think this is?
- What might cause the dead soldiers to not be able to rest?
- Does the poem provide hope or is it a tragedy?

Use this poem and others to inspire some of your own World War One poetry.

**Option 2:** Ask the children to find out more about World War One using secondary sources of information such as books and the internet. Consider the following:

- How did the war start?
- Which countries were involved? Can you locate them on a map?
- What were the trenches?
- What did World War One soldiers wear and carry?
- What was the World War One Christmas truce?

Ask the children to share any information they have found. Discuss and make a list of any further questions they may have.

## KS1 Follow-up Ideas

**Option 1:** Create a display of poppies. These could be made using tissue paper, painting the bottom of bottles or simply colouring. Once the children have finished their poppies, display instantly either on a wall, window or a classroom table. Ask the children to think about World War One – the fighting, the people who died, the families who lost someone.

- How does this make you feel?
- Can you think of one adjective to describe how it makes you feel?

Record a list and place it on one side of the poppies. Ask the children to then gather around your display and look at the poppies.

- How do you feel when you see the poppies?

Collect vocabulary and place on the other side of the poppies. Explain that World War One was terrifying and devastating but the poppies are beautiful and can help to symbolise hope and freedom.

**Option 2:** Explain that you are going to think about some of the key points of this year's Remembrance Sunday and link it to your maths work. Either as a pair, group or class complete some or all of the following challenges:

- It has been 100 years since the end of World War One. Can you count to 100? Can you count to 100 in 10's? How many 10's in 100?
- We keep 2 minutes silence to remember. How many seconds in a minute? How many in 2 minutes? Can you time 2 minutes on a stopwatch?
- World War One was 4 years and 4 months long. How many months in a year? How many months long was the war in total?

## This Week's Useful Websites

This week's news story

<https://armistice100.org.uk>



## This Week's Useful Videos

Launch of the 2018 Poppy Appeal

<https://youtu.be/U-TgmTocEGU>

