



Remembrance Day

1. As the pupils enter

Have the webpage open:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/school-radio/assemblies-ks1-ks2-remembrance-day-the-soldiers-tale/zrwh2v4>

Play your chosen music and display the picture of poppies:

http://teach.files.bbc.co.uk/schoolradio/assemblies/images/remembrance_day_poppies.jpg

2. Introduction

Lead a discussion about remembering with some or all of the following questions:

What is your earliest memory?

What do you remember about your first day at this school?

Do you remember how you felt?

Who knows what Remembrance Day is?

Then say: *Remembrance Day is a special day for remembering. It happens on 11 November each year and it remembers the day in 1918 when the First World War ended with the signing of an agreement called 'The Armistice'. This year the commemoration happens exactly 100 years since that war ended. One hundred years is a long time - and the lives of the people who lived then can seem remote from our own lives today. So to find out more about being a soldier in World War 1 - and why we choose to remember - we're going to watch a story called 'A soldier's tale'.*

3. Play the video

Play the video. The duration is 6' 28" and the final words are: '...forget a single one of them. Not ever.'

4 & 5. Time to talk

Use the Story questions to help children to talk about the story they have watched: 1. How did Walter's mother react to him 'joining up'? 2. How did the soldiers react as their train neared the coast? 3. What does it mean to go 'over the top'? 4. What signal was used to start the attack? 5. What injury did Walter receive? 6. What does he know about the circumstances of Harry's death?

Then lead a discussion on why it is important to remember those people whose lives have been affected by war - and those people who have lost their lives defending freedom in particular.

6. Time to sing

An opportunity to sing your chosen song.

Play video



7. Opportunity to reflect

Today we've been thinking about remembering - and about remembering those people whose lives have been affected by wars and conflict in particular. Think quietly about why it is important that we remember those people... And think about a special memory that you have - perhaps a special person... or a special place.

You could bring the reflection to a close by reading:

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old / Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. / At the going down of the sun and in the morning / We will remember them.

Or you could close the reflection by playing the extract from 'The Last Post' (see 'Related links').

8. Opportunity for prayer

Use your standard form of address ('Dear God, Lord Jesus' etc) and:

'At this time of remembering, we want to pray for those whose lives have been affected by war.

We are grateful for those men and women who fought for our freedom. Amen.'