

All About Poppies

History: November 11th 2020



REMEMBRANCE DAY
Lest We Forget

November 11th

Today in our lesson we will think about:

Where does wearing a poppy for remembrance come from?

We will find out who came up with the idea of wearing poppies

We will think about people who inspire us.



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What you will do

Read through this file with your grown up and talk about what you find out.

There are a few questions to answer and then I'd like you to make a poppy wreath.

I would also like you to continue to learn the poem 'In Flanders Fields'. We will be saying it a lot once we are back in school.

Look out for some challenge questions along the way.



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Have a look at these beautiful poppies. Have you ever seen poppies growing in a field? How did they make you feel? How does this picture make you feel?

Write two or three sentences to explain your feelings on the sheet at the end of this file – or you can just write on paper.



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Lots of people wear a poppy for remembrance.



At this time of year, we often see people wearing poppies on their coats, hats or jackets.

Can you see all these different people wearing poppies? Why do you think they wear them? Talk to your grown up about this.

Ask someone in your family why they have chosen to wear a poppy. Record your answers on the sheet at the end.



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When you wear a poppy...

What does it make you think?



How does it make you feel?

Add your answers to the sheet at the end of this file.



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Why do we wear poppies?

- We wear poppies to support a charity called The Royal British Legion.
- The money raised from selling poppies goes to the Royal British Legion.
- This charity supports people who have served in the armed services and their families.



Did you know?

The armed services include:

The Army

The Royal Navy

The Royal Air Force



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When did we start wearing poppies?

- People started wearing poppies after WW1.
- WW1 began in 1914 and 31 countries were involved.
- Over 65 million soldiers fought in WW1.
- WW1 lasted 4 years. It ended on 11th November 1918.

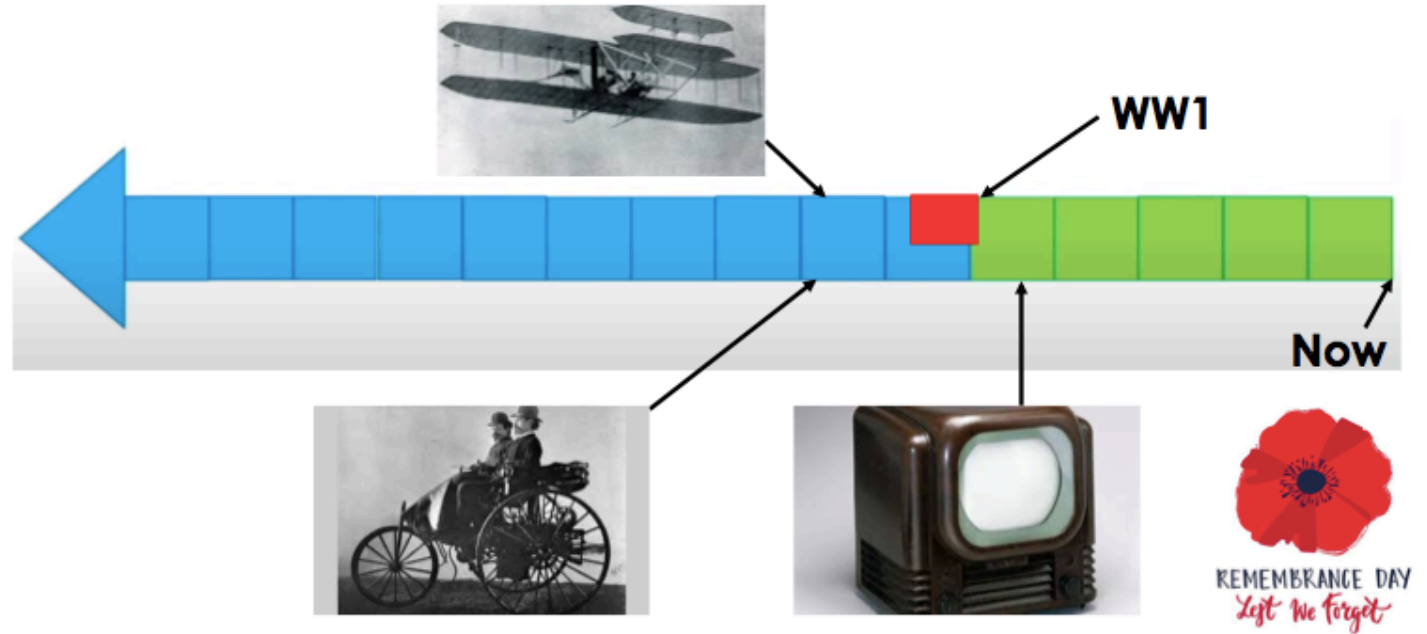


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When was WW1?

Talk about this with your grown up

Have a look at this time line. The **green part** shows the past 100 years. We call this **living memory** because there are people still alive who can remember what happened. So there are still some people who can remember when the first television was invented. The **blue part** shows things that happened before that. If we travel back in time from now you can see that the first flight and the first car happened so long ago now that there is no one alive to remember them. The **red blocks** show **1914-1918**. That was the time of WW1. There is hardly anyone alive now who can remember this time.



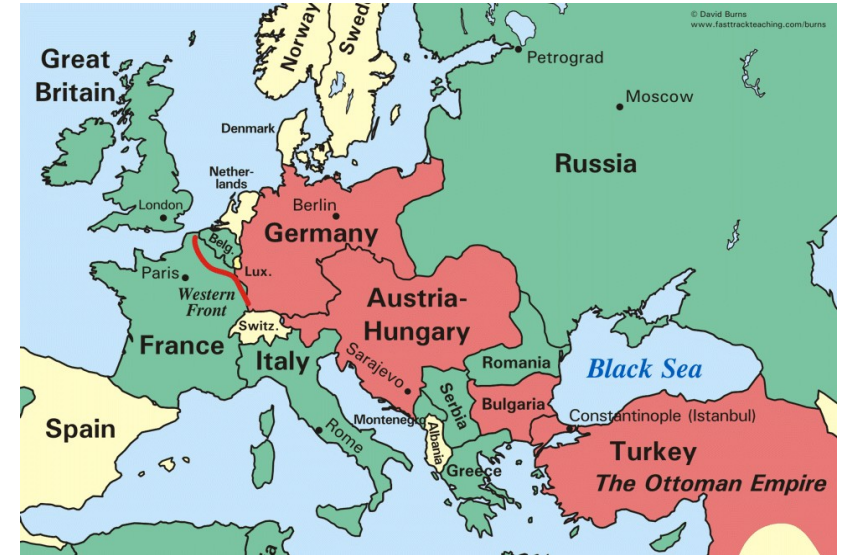
Create a time line of important things that have happened in your life.

All about WW1

It was called a World War for a reason...

It was the first war that included countries from across the world. Soldiers from 31 countries were involved.

It affected every town in this country in some way: men went to fight, people couldn't do what they usually did and everything was different.



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So why do we wear poppies?

Lt. Col. John McCrae MD wrote a poem called 'In Flanders Fields'.

He was serving in Ypres, Belgium during the First World War.

The poem was written in May 1915, a day after his best friend was buried.

Lots of people read this poem, including an American lady called **Moina Michael**.



**John
McCrae**



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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.

By Dr John McCrae

Don't forget to keep practising the poem 'In Flanders Fields'. We will be using it when we are back in school.



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Who was Moina Michael?

Moina Michael was a teacher who worked hard during WW1 to help American soldiers sent to fight in Europe.

She read John McCrae's poem and felt she had to do something to make sure that the soldiers who died in Flanders Fields were never forgotten.

She wanted to hold their torch high and never break faith with those who died.



Can you see the link with the poem In Flanders Fields?



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What did she do?

After reading the poem 'In Flanders Fields', Moina went out and bought **25 fabric poppies**. She wore one herself and gave the others to soldiers that she met.

But she wanted to do more. She set out to make the poppy into a symbol of remembrance- first in America and then all over the world.

Together with her friends, she persuaded enough people to take up her idea of wearing poppies to remember the soldiers who died - including a man called **Earl Haig** who set up the **Royal British Legion** in our country.



Earl Haig



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The poem In Flanders Field inspired Moina

- **Inspire** means to make someone want to do something special or challenging.
- Think about someone or something that inspires you. It could be someone you know or it could be someone famous. Maybe you are inspired by someone in your family or a sportsman or a writer. What have they done? Why are they special?

Write about that person on the sheet at the end of this file. You might even want to draw a picture.



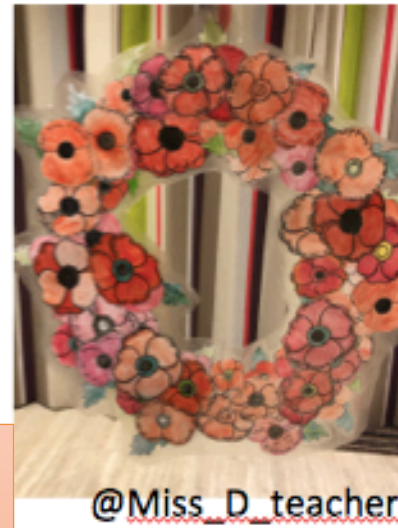
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Over to you...

I would love you to create a poppy wreath. There are some pictures to colour on the next page - or you could just draw your own .

Then cut them out and stick them in a circle. If you want, you can add a message to the wreath.

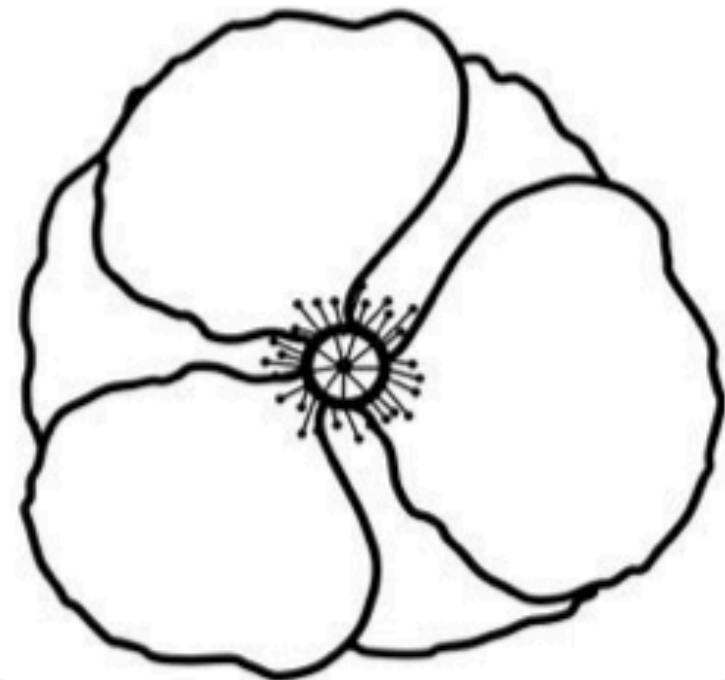
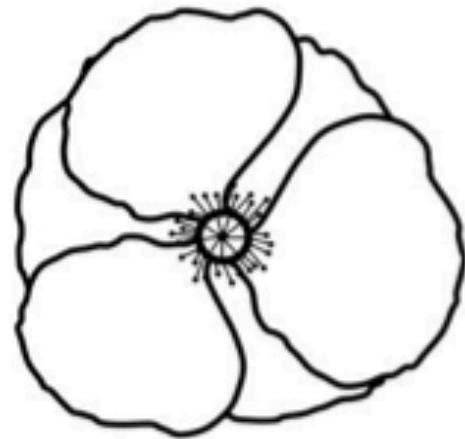
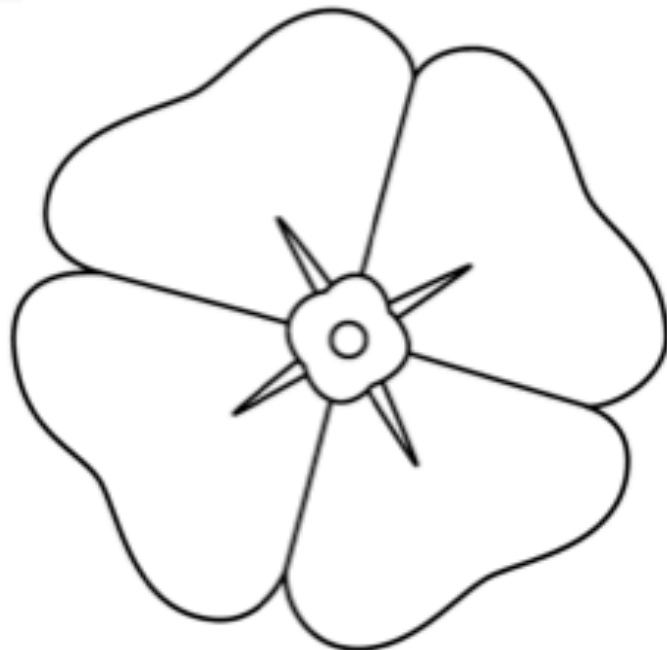
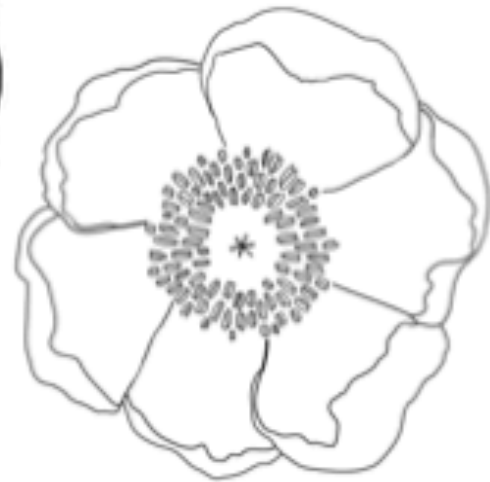
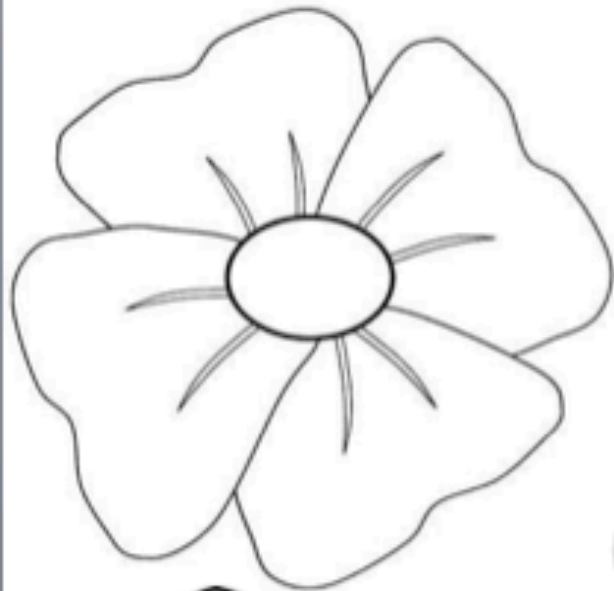
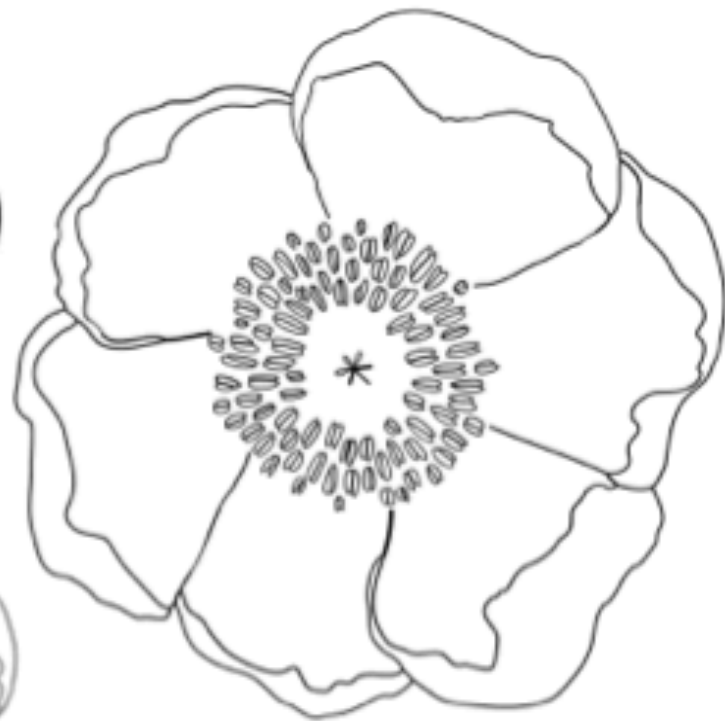
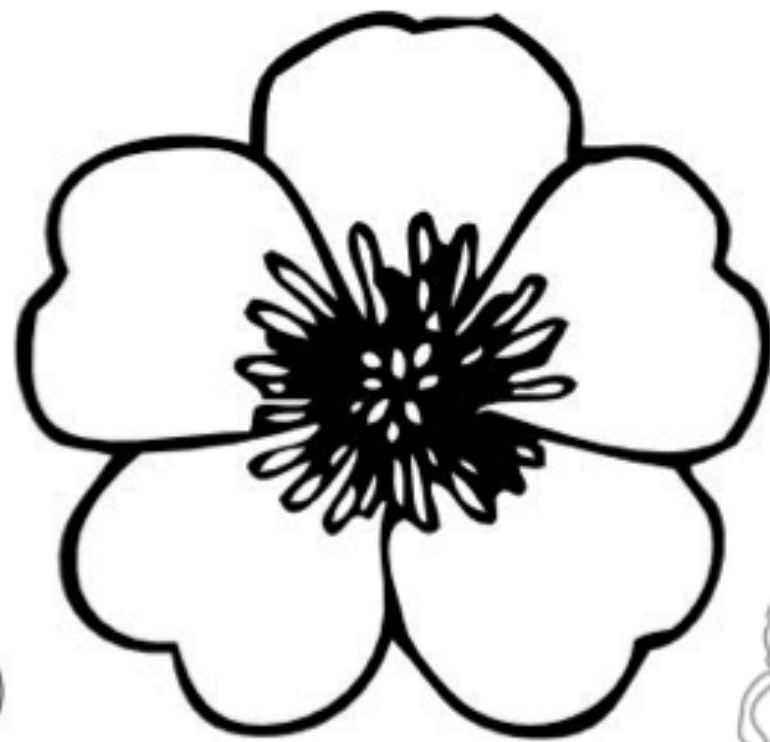
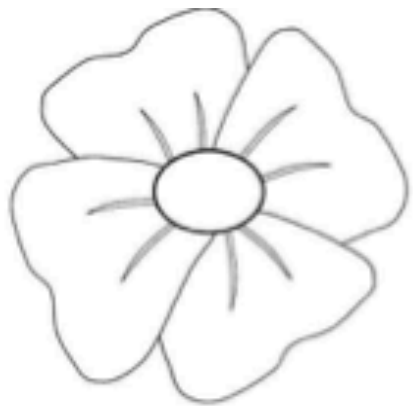
Have a look at these examples.



Did you know that some people wear purple poppies. Can you find out why?



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L.O. To know why we wear poppies.



Have a look at these beautiful poppies.
Have you ever seen poppies growing in a field?

How does this picture make you feel? Use the word **because** in your answer.

Ask someone in your family why they have chosen to wear a poppy. Write down what they tell you.

When you wear a poppy, what does it make you think about? How does it make you feel?



Who inspires you? Why?

Draw a picture of this person here.



Well done Year 2. You are all working so hard.

I can't wait to see your work.
Please send it to me at
[year2@info@st-jo-
st.dudley.sch.uk](mailto:year2@info@st-jo-st.dudley.sch.uk)



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