

## Overview

Join Abi and Joey as they talk about Anzac Day, sing together and create beautiful red craft poppies. Through this mini-episode, Play School supports families looking for ways to acknowledge Anzac Day differently this year, without the usual community events in place.

## Follow up ideas

Abi talks about the significance of ANZAC Day and what the 25<sup>th</sup> of April means to many Australians and New Zealanders. The episode incorporates a variety of questions directed at children and co-viewing grown-ups. This is a great way to lead into a discussion at your place (whether engaging with preschool aged or older children). Here are some examples:

- Have you heard about Anzac Day? What do you think it's about?
- When someone talks about Anzac Day, what do you imagine or see in your mind?
- Have you ever joined in an Anzac Day event? What did you do, what did you see?

Most young children will quickly share what they feel they already know (what they are beginning to understand), what they want to find out about, and what they may not be ready to talk about or consider.

## Story book suggestions

These stories incorporate the message of ANZAC Day for pre-schoolers and early primary:

- 'Anzac Ted' by Belinda Landsberry
- 'Digger' by Mark Dumbleton
- 'Gallipoli' by Kerry Greenwood and Annie White
- 'Alfred's War' by Rachel Bin Salleh



## Making poppies for remembrance

Abi shows us how to make a beautiful remembrance poppy. Do you know about the symbolism of the red poppy? Visit the [Australian War Memorial](#) to learn more. We also hear about the symbolism of rosemary. [The Australian ANZAC Day Commemoration Committee](#) shares information about the historical significance of rosemary, in ancient times it was thought to strengthen memory. There are also stories of a World War 1 soldier bringing back a special type of rosemary to Australia from Gallipoli.

Lead into ANZAC 'picture talks' with children. Find images of rosemary and red poppies online. Relate your discussion to what children think memory is and the value of remembering people and events from the past. You can learn the words and tune to 'What Do You Remember' and sing together with children. See page 3.



Building understandings through art and 'picture talks'

Abi shows a collection of images reflecting ANZAC Day through public monuments and street art. These works help to convey some of the emotions and experiences linked to ANZAC Day. Artwork can often say just as much as a told story - helping to signify what the date means from a historical and modern perspective.



Many public parks are home to significant ANZAC Memorials – children may walk past or play around them each day but never stop to consider their purpose. Drawing attention to local monuments in could be another meaningful opportunity to learn more, in the context of your city or community.

ANZAC Biscuit Baking

The tradition of baking ANZAC biscuits is a fun, hands-on way to mark ANZAC Day. Do you know the reason golden syrup is used to bind the mixture and not eggs? It's because poultry farmers were away at war and this had a big impact on egg production! Read more about the interesting history of ANZAC Biscuits from Jennifer Wong at [ABC Life](#).

Here is a recipe using traditional ingredients:

- 2 cups rolled oats
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1 cup plain flour
- 1/2 cup melted butter
- 1 tbs golden syrup
- 2 tbs boiling water
- 1 tsp bicarbonate soda (add a little more water if mixture is too dry)

For full baking instructions visit [The Australian War Memorial](#).

Credits

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Executive Producer

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Notes for Families and Educators

Early Childhood Education Producer, Laura Stone.