



Teacher Resource

# War Grave Volunteers

## Focus Questions


Discuss the BTN story as a class and record the main points of the discussion. Students will then respond to the following:

1. What does Remembrance Day mark the anniversary of?
2. Briefly explain the Headstone Project.
3. Describe what the students did as part of the project.
4. Why is it important to uncover the stories of the people who have served in wars?
5. What did you learn watching the BTN story?

## Activity: Personal Response

After watching the BTN War Grave Volunteers story, ask students to finish one or more of the following incomplete sentences:

- Learning about World War One made me feel...
- This episode of BTN made me wonder why...
- It was interesting to learn that...
- BTN covered this because...

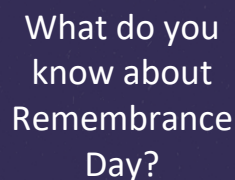


How did this story make you feel?

## Activity: Class Discussion

After watching the BTN War Grave Volunteers story ask students to discuss the following, in pairs or small groups:

- What did the students in the BTN story learn?
- What tasks did they do? (researching, finding families, planning, fundraising)
- Why was the project started?
- Have you been part of a Remembrance Day ceremony before? Describe what happened.
- How much do you know about Remembrance Day? Write down what you know already. Share as a class.



What do you know about Remembrance Day?

### EPISODE 32

12th November 2024

### KEY LEARNING

Students will learn more about the importance of Remembrance Day.

### CURRICULUM

#### HASS – Year 5 and 6

Sequence information about people's lives, events, developments and phenomena using a variety of methods including timelines.

Locate and collect relevant information and data from primary and secondary sources.

Develop appropriate questions to guide an inquiry about people, events, developments, places, systems and challenges.

#### HASS – Year 7

Construct significant questions and propositions to guide investigations about people, events, developments, places, systems and challenges.

Apply a methodology to locate and collect relevant information and data from a range of primary sources and secondary sources.

## Activity: Celebration or Commemoration?

In this activity students will explore and explain the difference between a celebration and commemoration. They will discuss ways that communities commemorate events and people and reflect on the importance of commemorative events in society.

### Class Discussion

As a class, discuss and respond to the following.

- What is the difference between a celebration and a commemoration? Find a definition for both terms.
- Brainstorm words that relate to commemoration, for example, tribute, honour, memory, memorial, monument, remember, anniversary, observe and ceremony.

### Personal Response

Individually, students will respond to the following:

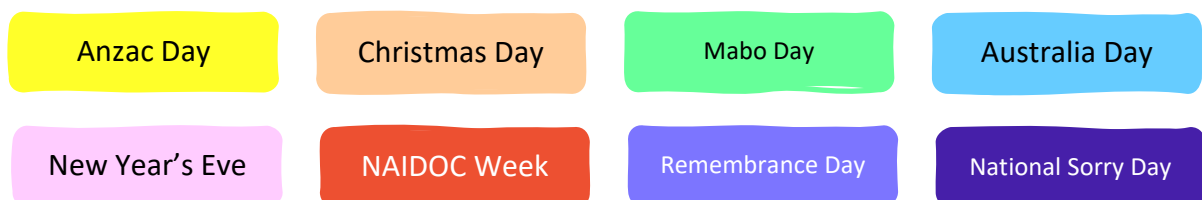
- What events do you celebrate with your family?
- What events do you celebrate with your friends?
- What events do you celebrate with your community?

And then respond to these questions:

- What events do you commemorate?
- Do you commemorate these events with your school or community?
- Are there any special dates you might commemorate just with your family?

### T-chart

Students will create a T-chart and sort the following events as either a celebration or commemoration.



### KWLH

Students will develop their own question/s to research or choose one or more of the questions below, to learn more about Remembrance Day. Encourage students to collect and record information from a wide variety of sources and present the information they find in an interesting way.

- What are some customs or traditions that you might see on Remembrance Day? Research and make a list. Choose one to explore in more detail. Visit the [Australian War Memorial](#) website for more information.
- Is there a special place at your school or in your local community where ceremonies are held (school hall, memorial garden, statue, monument, courtyard, flagpole etc.)? Learn more about it and present your findings in a poster.
- Why is Remembrance Day on the 11<sup>th</sup> of November? Explore the significance of the date and time.

## Activity: Commemoration in your Community

Students will investigate how their community commemorates and remembers Australian men and women that contributed during First World War.

### Class Discussion

Begin this activity by having a class discussion using the following questions.

- How does your local community commemorate Remembrance Day?
- How can you find information about service men and women? (consider National Archives, Australian War Memorial, local historical societies, RSLs, State Libraries, Trove).
- What do you know about service men and women in your community?
- Find out if there is a war memorial in your area. Where is it located?

### Excursion

If possible, arrange an excursion to your local war memorial. Some students may be able to trace members of their families on local memorials. Encourage students to describe what they can see (e.g. lists of names, dates and symbols). Ask questions during the excursion:

- Look closely at all parts of the memorial.
- What do you notice about who or what is represented? How is this done?
- Is there an honour board? (a list of names)
- When was the memorial built?
- Do you notice any symbols? What do they mean?
- What effect does visiting the memorial have on you?

### Design

Students will design their own war memorial. Students will need to think about the following:

- What symbols, words and images will you include?
- How would you want people who might visit your memorial to feel?

## Activity: Remembering a Veteran

Students will learn about the roles and contributions of Australian service men and women during World War One. Students will create a profile on a veteran as a way to honour and remember them.

### Interactive Digibook

Begin the activity by watching this video digibook created by ABC Education to learn about [Untold stories from Australian WWI Memorials](#).

### Create a Profile

Students will choose one veteran and create a profile on them. Students may want to learn more about an Australian veteran from their community or a person they have read about.



Untold stories from Australian WWI Memorials  
(Source: [ABC Education](#))

Students will use the following to guide them through this activity:

- Create your profile on a piece of A4 card or paper.
- Include a photo of the veteran.
- Tell the story of the person using your own words. Include 2-3 paragraphs.

Create a remembrance board of your students' profiles and display in your class, or school library to remember and honour war veterans.

### Create a Postcard

Students will write and decorate postcard to a World War One veteran in recognition of their service.

## Activity: Remembrance Poppies

Before students create their poppy flowers, watch the following BTN stories to see how kids in Australia are paying tribute to those who fought in World War One. After watching one of the BTN videos, ask students to respond to the discussion questions which can be found on the story page.



BTN [Australia's Recovery from WWI](#) story



BTN [Remembrance Day Poppies](#) story

### Make a Remembrance Day poppy

Learn how to make a commemorative Remembrance Day poppy badge.

#### MATERIALS:

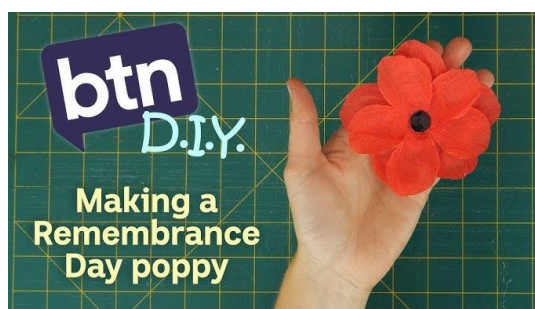
- Red crepe paper
- White card
- Safety pin
- Craft glue
- Masking tape

#### TOOLS:

- Scissors
- Black Marker

#### INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Trace a circle on white card (approx. 4cm diameter). Cut out the circle.
2. Cut out a smaller circle on white card (approx. 1.5cm diameter). Colour the circle black.



Tutorial – [Make a Remembrance Day poppy](#)

3. Cut a strip of red crepe paper (approx. 5cm). Draw 3 petal shapes on the strip of crepe paper. Cut out the petal shapes.
4. Stretch the petals (4-5 petals at a time). Separate the petals.
5. Put glue on the large circle. Stick on a layer of petals around the circle.
6. Put glue in the centre of the petals. Stick another layer of petals on top.
7. Put glue in the centre of the poppy. Stick on the small black circle.
8. Stick the safety pin on the back of the poppy with masking tape.
9. Write a remembrance message on the back of the poppy.

If you don't want to wear the poppy as a badge and would rather use it as decoration, tape a black pipe-cleaner to the back as a stem. You can also make upcycled poppies using egg cartons or plastic bottles.

## Useful Websites

- [World War 1, Remembrance Day](#) – BTN
- [The Headstone Project](#)
- [ANZAC Resources](#) – ABC Education
- [Make a Remembrance Day poppy tutorial](#) – BTN (YouTube)
- [Gallipoli and World War One](#) – ABC Education