

Remembering the Past: Remembrance Day

Learning objective: To understand the historical significance of Remembrance Day and why we observe a two-minute silence.

Read each question carefully and use your knowledge of history to provide thoughtful, well-reasoned answers.

Remembrance Day, also known as Armistice Day, is observed on 11 November each year. It marks the moment the fighting ended in the First World War in 1918. At the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, a two-minute silence is held to show respect for those who served and lost their lives in wars and conflicts. The bright red poppy is worn as a symbol of hope and remembrance, inspired by the flowers that grew on the battlefields of Flanders.

Word bank: Armistice · Remembrance · Poppy · Soldiers · Silence · Conflict · Peace · Gratitude

1. Why is the date 11 November significant to the history of the First World War? (2 marks)

2. Ellie the elephant is learning about symbols. Explain why the poppy was chosen as the symbol for Remembrance Day. (2 marks)

3. What is the purpose of holding a two-minute silence at 11:00 am? (2 marks)

4. Look at the word 'Armistice'. Using your dictionary skills or prior knowledge, what does this term mean in a historical context? (2 marks)

5. If you were designing a memorial for your local town, what three things would you include to ensure people remember the importance of peace? (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a peaceful scene featuring a field of red poppies. Include a small, respectful plaque in the corner with a message of thanks.



Extension challenge: Research a local war memorial in your town or village. Write a short paragraph explaining who it commemorates and why it is important for the community to maintain it.