

Remembrance Day: Honouring the Past with Ellie

Learning objective: To understand the historical significance of Remembrance Day and why we observe the two-minute silence on 11th November.

Ellie the elephant has been researching history to help us understand why we wear poppies and observe silence in November. Answer the questions below using your knowledge of Remembrance Day and historical reflection.

Ellie the elephant has a wonderful memory. She remembers the stories of the past so that we can learn from them. Every year, on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month, the country stops to remember those who gave their lives in conflicts. The red poppy, which grew in the fields of Flanders, became a symbol of hope and remembrance. We stand in silence to show our respect and our desire for a peaceful future.

Word bank: Armistice · Remembrance · Conflict · Sacrifice · Poppy · Gratitude · Reflection · 11th November · Peace

1. Explain why the date 11th November is historically significant. What event occurred on this day in 1918? (2 marks)

2. Why is the poppy used as the symbol for Remembrance Day? Consider the environment where the soldiers fought. (2 marks)

3. Compare and contrast how we might show respect during a two-minute silence versus how we celebrate other national holidays. Why is the silence important? (3 marks)

4. Justify why it is important for children today to learn about historical conflicts, even if they happened long ago. (3 marks)

5. What might happen to our collective memory of history if we stopped observing Remembrance Day? Explain your reasoning. (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a field of poppies in the style of Zara the zebra, focusing on the patterns and shapes of the flowers. Include a small, thoughtful detail that represents peace.



Extension challenge: Write a short, reflective poem in the style of Leo the lion about the meaning of peace. Once finished, research a local war memorial in your town or city and explain its purpose to a partner.