

Remembrance: A Day of Reflection with Ellie

Learning objective: To understand the historical significance of Remembrance Day and why we honor those who served in conflicts.

Read the passage below carefully. Use your best handwriting and full sentences to answer the questions. Think deeply about the feelings and traditions described.

Ellie the elephant, with her incredible memory, often shares stories about the importance of 11th November. This date marks Remembrance Day, a time when the nation pauses to commemorate those who served in conflicts, particularly the First World War. At the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month in 1918, the guns finally fell silent, marking the Armistice. To remember this, many people wear a bright red poppy. This flower became a symbol of hope because it was the first to grow in the churned-up earth of the battlefields. During services, people observe a two-minute silence. It is a quiet, solemn moment intended to show respect and gratitude for the sacrifices made by others. While it is a sombre day, it is also a time for us to think about how we can build a more peaceful future. By learning about history, we ensure that the stories of the past are never forgotten, helping us to appreciate the freedom we have today.

Word bank: Armistice · remembrance · poppy · conflict · commemorate · gratitude · sacrifice

1. At what specific time and date did the First World War fighting come to an end? (2 marks)

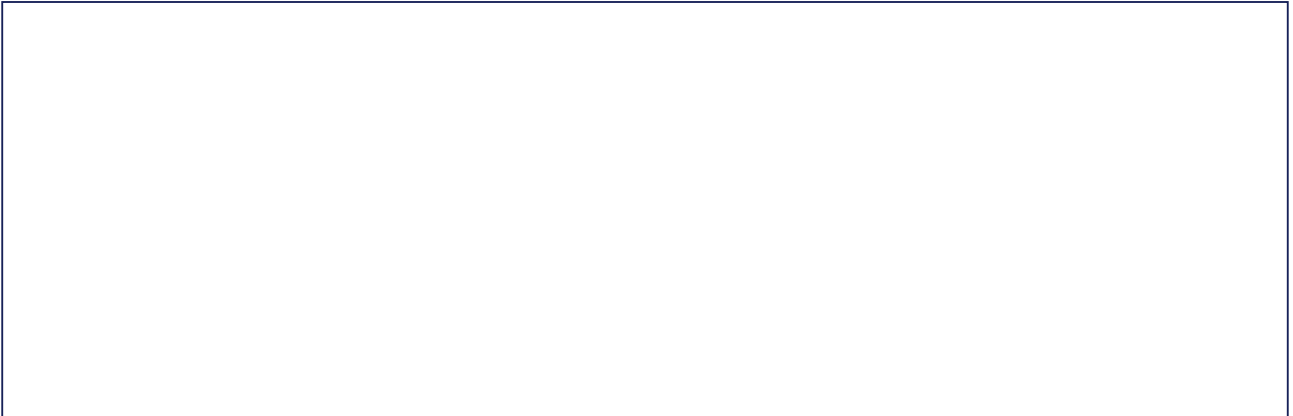
2. Why did the poppy become the chosen symbol for Remembrance Day? (2 marks)

3. Looking at the text, why do you think people choose to stand in silence for two minutes rather than playing music or talking? (2 marks)

4. Explain why Ellie believes it is important to remember the stories of the past even though the events happened long ago. (2 marks)

5. Do you think symbols, like the poppy, are a good way for a country to remember its history? Justify your answer with a reason. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a peaceful scene that represents the concept of remembrance, such as a field of poppies or a quiet memorial, including one of Ellie's favorite books resting nearby.



Extension challenge: Compare and contrast how we commemorate historical events today versus how people might have felt on the very first Armistice Day. What might happen if we stopped observing these moments of reflection in our schools and communities?