Remembrance Day: A Time for Reflection

Learning objective: To understand the significance of Remembrance Day, the symbolism of the poppy, and why we hold a two-minute silence.

Read each question carefully and write your answers in the spaces provided. Ensure your responses are thoughtful and reflect your understanding of the history and importance of the day.

Remembrance Day is held on 11 November every year. It marks the moment when the fighting in the First World War ended in 1918. At the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month, an agreement called an Armistice was signed, bringing the conflict to an end. Today, we wear red poppies to remember those who gave their lives in service to our country. It is a time for the nation to pause, reflect, and show gratitude for the peace we enjoy today. Many communities gather at local war memorials to lay wreaths and stand together in silence.

Word bank: Armistice · Remembrance · Symbolism · Sacrifice · Commemoration · Conflict · Peace · Respect

1. What specific date and time is Remembrance Day marked, and what important event happened at that time in 1918? (2 marks)

2. Why is the red poppy used as a symbol for Remembrance Day? Consider its appearance in the natural world during the First World War. (3 marks)

3. Max the monkey is curious about the 'two-minute silence'. Why do you think it is important for a whole country to stop what they are doing and be silent at the same time? (4 marks)

4. Ellie the elephant has a great memory for history. List two ways in which people in your local community might show their respect on Remembrance Day. (3 marks)

5. Explain the difference between a celebration and a commemoration. Why is Remembrance Day considered a commemoration rather than a celebration? (4 marks)

6. Extended Writing Task: Pip the caterpillar is writing a poem about peace. Write a short reflection (approx. 100 words) on why it is vital for future generations to learn about the sacrifices made by those who served in wars, and how we can work towards a peaceful world today. (9 marks)

Draw: Draw a commemorative scene at a local war memorial. Include a wreath of poppies and show how the environment helps create a peaceful space for reflection.

Extension challenge: Total: /25. Think about the 'Unknown Warrior'. Research who this figure is and why they were buried in Westminster Abbey to represent all those who lost their lives.