

What can we find out about World War I?

This lesson has been piloted with a Year 3 class but can be adapted as necessary to fit other age groups.

Activity title:	What can we find out about World War I?
Curriculum subject or area:	History, Geography
NC objectives:	History (2013) - KS2 1b, 2a, 2c, 3, 4a, 4b, 5b, 7 History (2014) - local history study, historical questions Geography - KS2 1c, 1d
Main learning objective:	To use books and the internet to research and write information about WWI

Timing	Lesson plan ideas, activities and resource sheets needed
INTRODUCTION 5 - 10 minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ask children: if we wanted to find out about World War I, what are the key things we would want to know? Direct answers towards: start and end dates, why the war started, the significance of poppies.
MAIN ACTIVITY 20 - 30 minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Give out Iconic WWI Pictures Resource - poppies, women working in factories, soldier's uniform, trenches, war memorial, 'Your Country Needs You' poster. These can be adapted to fit the focus of research. Children to use WWI books (see list below) and suitable websites (BBC Schools History is very good) to research information to write in own words what the pictures are showing. Discuss how the information can be presented - factsheet, writing captions around each picture etc, or presenting it in a digital format. For lower ability children - provide information to be matched to the pictures More able children can carry out independent research and be encouraged to supply more detailed annotation of pictures
PLENARY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revisit learning objective.

5 - 10 minutes

- What is the most interesting fact you have learnt about World War I?
- Did you find any surprising facts?

Suggested extension activities or cross curricular links:

- Art - make WWI themed pictures (e.g. poppies, silhouetted soldiers) in the forms of collages, sketches, charcoal/pastels, watercolours
- ICT - use Audacity and Windows Moviemaker to put together a digital story about the facts of WWI. For examples of digital stories created on WWI subjects visit www.glosremembers.co.uk/WW1-blog
- Geography - look at countries involved in WWI and where the front line action took place
- PSHE - the role of women in WWI

Suggested books suitable for KS2:

- Ladybird Histories: First World War (ISBN 978073270850)
- Frightful First World War (ISBN 9781407103020)
- Penguin Book of First World War Poetry (ISBN 9780141181905)
- Stories of the Great War (ISBN 9781407140551)
- World War I (ISBN 9781447227717)
- The Story of the First World War (ISBN 9781409523468)