



Veterans Affairs

REMEMBRANCE DAY 2021

School engagement and resources



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Remembrance Day 2021

COVID-19 update

- Now that NSW has reached 80% of the eligible population being fully vaccinated a COVID-safe outdoor gathering with up to 200 people can take place, or a controlled outdoor public gathering (with fencing, seating and ticketing) for up to 3,000 people.
- A COVID-19 Safety Plan will need to be completed and applicable guidelines followed.

Hosting a Remembrance Day Service

- Remembrance Day falls on Thursday 11 November, and we are encouraging schools to organise a COVID-19 safe Remembrance service to pause at 11am to remember and acknowledge our servicemen and servicewomen.
- It is suggested that invitations could be extended to the local Member of Parliament, Mayor and local council, and members of the local RSL sub-Branch
- The below link provides some details for delivering a commemorative service:
 - Link to NSW Veterans Affairs: <https://www.veterans.nsw.gov.au/commemoration/plan-and-deliver-a-commemorative-activity/>
- The Ode, Last Post and Rouse can be downloaded as an audio link below:
 - <https://www.veterans.nsw.gov.au/assets/veterans-affairs/4-AMCP-service-simple.mp3>

Communications / key messages

- At 11am on 11 November 1918, fighting in the First World War came to an end
- Over 100 years later we pause for a minute at 11am on Thursday 11 November 2021 to remember the service and sacrifice of our veterans
- The tradition of stopping at 11am started on the very first anniversary of Armistice Day in 1919 and has continued for over 100 years
- This year marks the 103rd anniversary of the First World War Armistice, where a peace settlement was signed to end 4 years of brutal conflict.
- Almost 62,000 Australians died fighting for our freedom and in service of our nation.
- 2021 is the Centenary of the Royal Australian Air Force. On 31 March 2021 the RAAF marked 100 years of service to Australia. For more information visit the [Air Force Centenary website](#).
- 2021 also sees the 60th anniversary of the Spitfire Association – several biographies and firsthand accounts of the people of the Spitfire generation have been published. For more information visit the [Spitfire Association website](#)

Social content / posting

- A great way to commemorate Remembrance Day this year is to post to your social media accounts, whether Instagram, Facebook, LinkedIn or Twitter with images of your event.
- Visit the NSW Veterans Affairs webpage for some social media tiles that can be used: <https://www.veterans.nsw.gov.au/remembrance-day-2021/>
- We encourage schools to post about their service on Remembrance Day with:
#remembranceday2021
#lestweforget
#wewillrememberthem

The Origin and Significance of Remembrance Day

- Remembrance Day is an important day in Australia, and across the world.
- We observe one minute's silence at 11am and hold commemorations to remember those who died or suffered in all wars and conflicts.
- Red poppies are worn, inspired by the thousands that grew across the battlefields of the Western Front.
- In 1918, the Germans accepted the terms presented by the Allied Supreme Commander General Ferdinand Foch. In doing so, they signed an armistice on 11 November 1918 that ended the fighting between Germany and the Allies and brought a close to the World War One.
- The armistice was signed in a railway carriage stationed at Compiègne forest, north of Paris, at 5:10 am, and it came into effect at 11 am.
- Prime Minister of Australia, William Hughes, received a cablegram from the Secretary of State for the Colonies in London. Dated '11 November 1918, 10.55 am', it read:
Most urgent. Armistice signed 5 a.m. this morning.
- Australia was a small nation with a population of fewer than five million. From this small population base, no less than 416,809 men enlisted of which 302,000 served overseas. Of these, 62,000 were killed and 155,000 wounded.
- More than 2,000 Australian nurses served in the Australian Army Nursing Service during World War One. Twenty-five Australian nurses died during the war and eight were awarded the Military Medal for bravery.
- The below links provide details about the origins of Remembrance Day, which can be utilised in lesson plans for students.
 - The history of Remembrance Day
 - Poem – In Flanders Fields
 - Observance of silence at 11am
 - Significance of poppies
 - Link to DVA: <https://www.dva.gov.au/recognition/commemorating-all-who-served/commemorative-services/origin-remembrance-day>
 - Link to RSL: <https://www.rslnsw.org.au/commemoration/remembrance-day/>

Curriculum

Secondary – Syllabus links:

History K-10, Stage 5 – Core Study- Depth Study 3: Australians at War: World Wars I and II (1914-1918, 1939-1945)

Content:

Commemorations and the nature of the ANZAC legend

Students:

Explain how and why Australians have commemorated the wars

Curriculum**Secondary – Syllabus links:**

Modern History Year 11, Stage 6 – The Shaping of the Modern World (World War 1)

Content:

The nature and legacy of World War 1 and its influence on modernity.

Students:

Explain how World War 1 has shaped our world today

Secondary – Syllabus links:

History Extension Year 12, Option 23 – Representations of Anzac

Content:

Students examine the historians and approaches to history (including recent historiography) that have contributed to historical debate in the role of Anzac in culture in Australia

The poppy

- A video prepared to assist students understand commemoration
- Developed for lower primary students
 - Link to video: <https://anzacportal.dva.gov.au/resources/poppies-here-they-come-day-remember>

Curriculum:**Primary – Syllabus links:**

History K-10, Stage 2 – Community and Remembrance

Outcomes:

HT2-1 – identifies celebrations and commemorations of significance in Australia and the world

Content:

Days and weeks celebrated or commemorated in Australia (including Australia Day, ANZAC Day, Harmony Week, National Reconciliation Week, NAIDOC Week, National Sorry Day) and the importance of symbols and emblems

Students:

Identify and describe local, state and national symbols and discuss the origins, symbolism and significance, eg the school logo, Australian and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags, coats of arms from states and Australia

Identify important Australian celebrations and commemorations and discuss their origins and significance in society

Remembrance Day - Flanders Poppies Poster**• Poster to be downloaded**

- Link to download the poster:
<https://anzacportal.dva.gov.au/sites/default/files/docs/remembrance-day-poster-flanders.pdf>

Making a poppy

Step by step process for making a poppy

- This project is targeted at primary students
 - Link to information from DVA: <https://anzacportal.dva.gov.au/commemoration/event-planning/poppies>

You'll need:

- thin cardboard
- red crepe paper
- green pipe cleaner
- black paper
- scissors
- pencil
- glue

What to do:

1. Use scissors to cut out a poppy shape (see image) on cardboard to make a template.
2. Place the poppy template on the red crepe paper and trace around it with a pencil.
3. Cut out the poppy shape with scissors.
4. To make the stalk, take a pipe cleaner and bend the end over twice at 1cm lengths.
5. Push the straight end of the pipe cleaner through the middle of the red poppy shape and continue to thread it through until the bent end sits against the middle of the poppy.
6. Cut a small circle out of the black paper and glue it onto the centre of the poppy. The centre will secure the green pipe cleaner to the red crepe paper poppy.
7. Bend and shape the pipe cleaner and poppy petals.

Additional creative: Combine many poppies in a circle to make a wreath (video link).

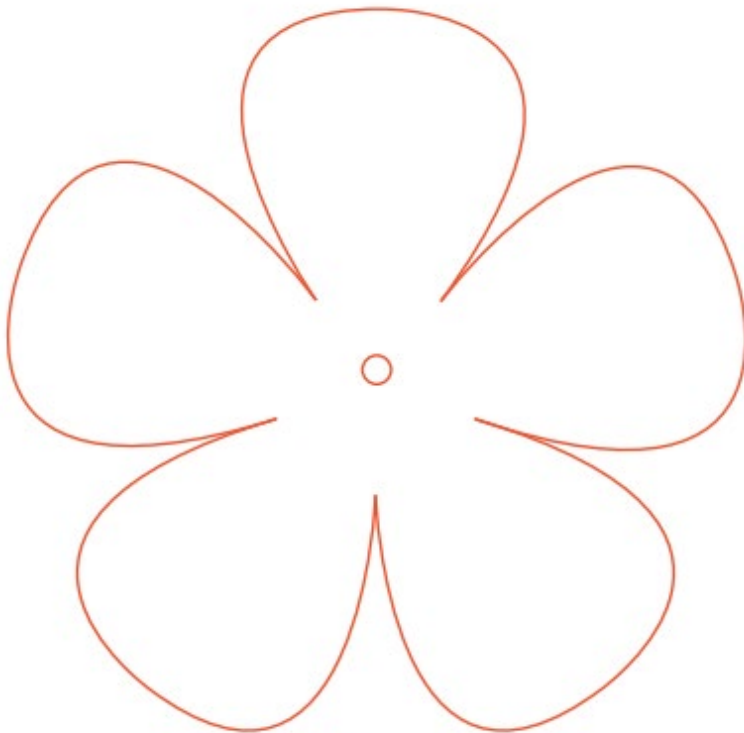


Figure 1. Petal template



Figure 2. Stem template

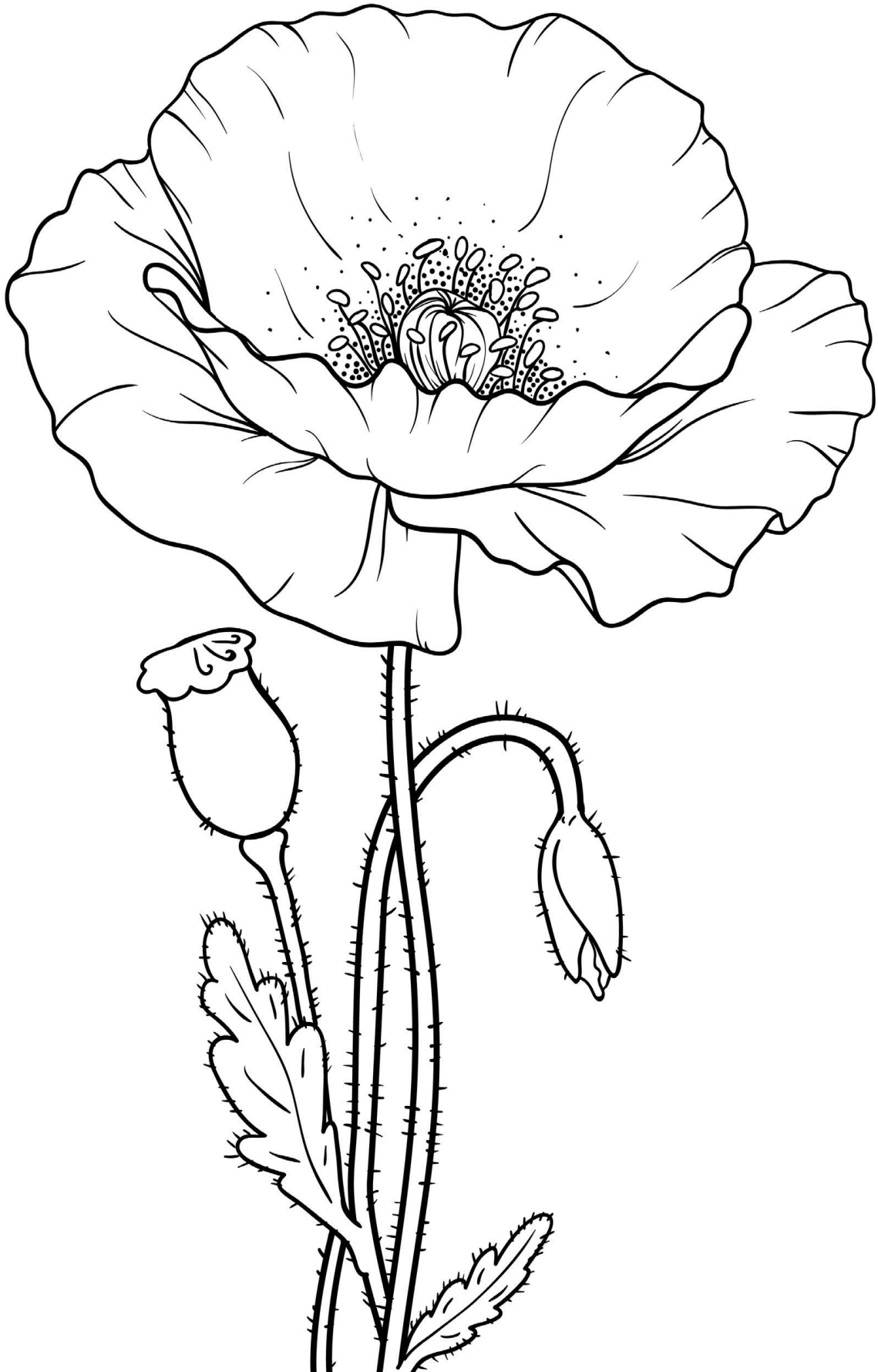
Not to scale

Colouring in activity

- The following two pages can be used as a colouring in activity, targeted at primary students.

The Poppy

In Australia and other countries of the Commonwealth, we recognise the red poppy as the commemorative flower of remembrance. The flower reminds us of those who lost their lives or suffered in wars, conflicts and peacekeeping operations. It's a tradition that began soon after the First World War.



In Flanders Fields (John McCrae)

In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly

Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.

If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.

