

Robin Class

Remembrance Day





Remembrance Day is held on the 11th of November - the 11th day of the 11th month of the year. A two minute silence is always held at 11am to remember the millions who have died at war.



Remembrance Day was first held in 1919, one year after the First World War ended. It is sometimes known as Armistice day.



On Remembrance Day, people will lay wreaths of poppies on statues and monuments to remember all the soldiers who died for us.



We use Remembrance Day to remember all those who fought for their country, those who died and those who came home.

First World War

During the First World War, the fields of Northern France and Flanders were ripped open as the conflict raged through Europe.

Once the battles were over, the humble poppy was one of the only plants to grow on the barren battlefields.



In Flanders Fields

Major John McCrae, a First World War poet and military doctor, had been asked to conduct a burial for his friend Lieutenant Alexis Helmer.



It is believed he wrote the first draft of his famous poem, In Flanders Fields, as he looked upon his friend's grave. Poppies were growing amongst other graves in the burial site.

In Flanders Fields

by John McCrae 1915

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.



Can you write your own poem about poppies?

Think about how they move, the colours you can see and where they are found.

You could write an acrostic style poem using the word 'Poppy' to go down the page and use the letters as the first letter of each line.

Poppies float in the breeze

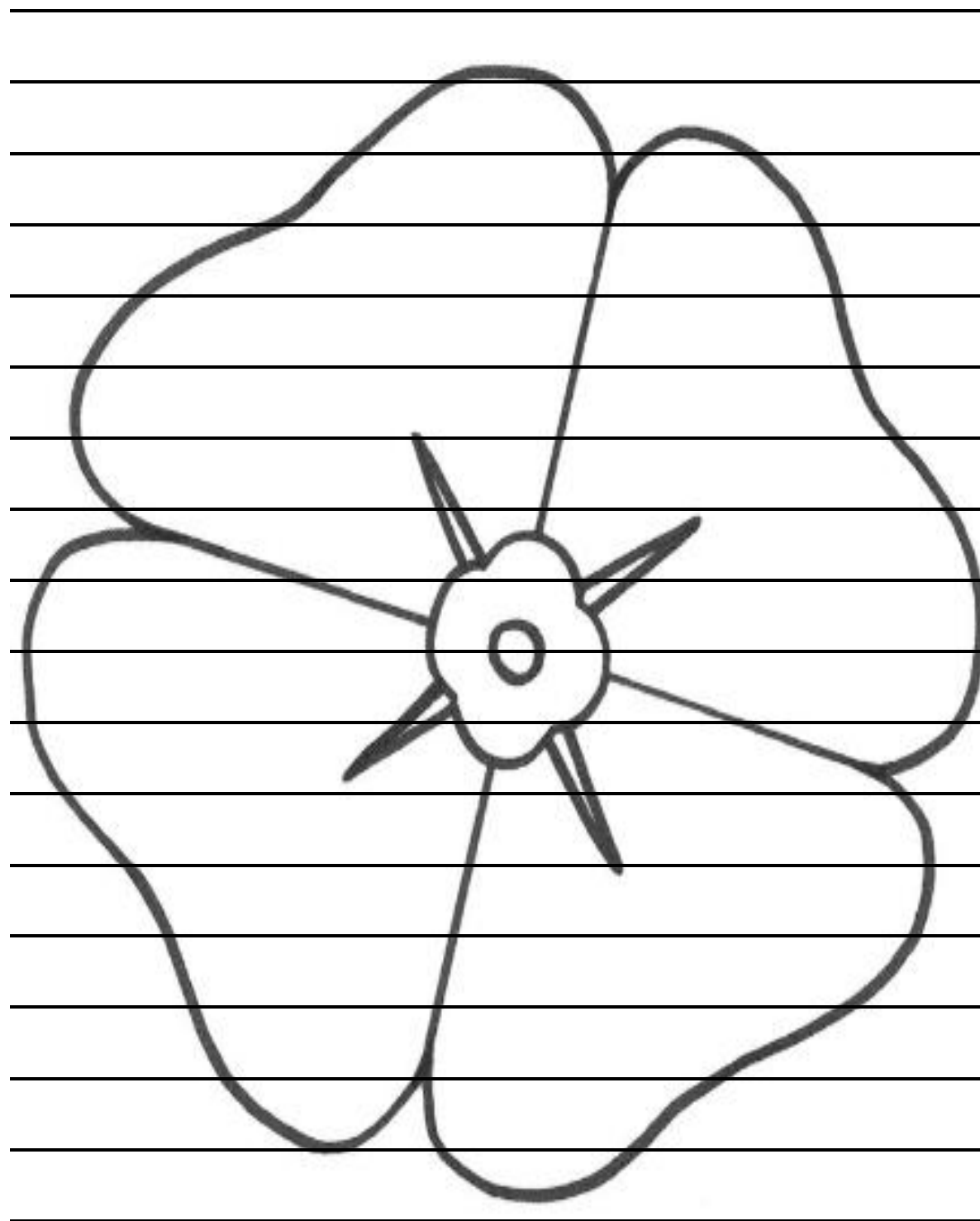
Only one flower on each stem

People died across the fields

Please don't forget them

Young at heart for ever

My Poppy Poem



Could you try to make your own poppy out of things you have at home?

You could use ripped up magazines for colour and stick them together to make a collage poppy.

You could use the template below to either colour or stick things on to.

