

Some Ideas for Elementary Classroom or School-wide Activities :

- 1) Make a *mixed poppy wreath* to show the high percentage of civilian war victims. You can use the flower and leaf templates on our website
- 2) Make *both a red poppy wreath* to commemorate soldiers who have been killed, *and a white poppy wreath* to commemorate civilians killed in wars.
- 3) Talk about how *children's lives are disrupted by war*. Then make a white poppy wreath or a single large white poppy using *cut out faces of kids from ads or magazines to make the centre of the flower*. Add a sign to explain what your wreath represents.
- 4) Ask your kids if they have *family stories of war and dislocation* to share with classmates
- 5) Hold a *Peace Concert* in your school, just before Remembrance Day, involving students singing and speaking. Invite parents and school neighbors. If you encourage donations at this concert, the money raised can be donated to a peace-making charity of the students choosing.
- 6) Create *large red and white poppies* and display them *outdoors* on fences around your school. Dollar store foam sheets are waterproof and easy to cut and paint. Include text blocks like 'Remember War' and 'Work For Peace' or 'Remembering Soldiers & Civilians'
- 7) Make poppy petals using heart shaped templates, a large one for the main petal & smaller ones for the black blotches. Make centres a green circle with a red heart. Explain that gluing or pinning the petals together to make a flower is a symbolic way to show that we build peace and understanding by connecting our hearts to others.
- 8) *Invite guests* (veterans and local activists) into the class/school to speak about peace and their work to promote it.
- 9) *Make a mural* or collage showing a field of green grass with red and white poppies.
- 10) Have your class *make picture books* telling the history of the White Poppy.
- 11) Invite students in one class to design a *Peace Card* with line drawing. Choose 4 masters, and then photocopy them. Pass the photocopied cards out to participating classes and have students color the fronts of these cards. Have students copy an agreed upon message of peace and remembrance of all victims of war, inside each card. Divide up the neighborhood around the school, and then take the students out to pass out the cards to all school neighbors the day before Remembrance Day.
- 12) Ask students to *share stories of peace making* from their own lives, in class or at an assembly. These can be in any form (written/drawn/spoken/acted/etc.).
- 13) *Reach out to older or younger students* at a nearby high school / elementary school and develop a project together that links these two schools in action for peace.
- 14) Have the children cut out red, white, black, and green shapes from advertisements or magazines. They *make a collage picture* of big red and white poppies with a peace message below.
- 15) Create an art project by encouraging students to bring in and *repurpose old war toys*, by taking them apart and then using the pieces to make new objects or images promoting peace.

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Don't forget to *tell us* about the *your projects and ideas*, so we can share them with others and inspire more work in future years !!!!