In Flanders Fields
by John McCrae

In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That marks 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.
Make your own paper poppy

During remembrance, people wear red poppies as a symbol of respect for all those who lost their lives in the Second World War. Below you can find a stencil and instructions for making your own paper poppy to wear during remembrance.

Step 1
Colour the petals in red

Step 2
Cut out the petals of the poppy (A) and the larger black circle (B)

Step 3
Push a green straw or a pipe cleaner through the middle of the petals, then through the black circle

Step 4
Cut out the smaller black circle (C), and glue in place on top

Step 5
Create a field of poppies
11 Facts for the 11th of November

Every year, Armistice Day is celebrated on the 11th November to commemorate the day that the First World War allies signed an agreement with Germany to end the fighting. Read on to find out more about this day and how it is celebrated.

1. The agreement was signed on 11th November 1918

2. The agreement meant that fighting had to stop at 11am on that day, which is why we observe the two minute silence at 11am on Remembrance Day

3. The two minutes’ silence is a chance to reflect and remember all those who gave their lives in the First World War and all the other members of the Services who have given their lives in combat

4. The first official observance of Armistice Day was on 11th November 1919, at Buckingham Palace

5. People wear poppies to remember those who have given their lives in battle, because they are the flowers which grew on the battlefield, after the war ended

6. The poppies are described in the famous First World War poem In Flanders Field. The poet, John McCrae, wrote his poem in Ypres after burying his fellow soldiers

7. The British Legion was founded in 1921, to help soldiers that had returned home. In order to raise money to help these soldiers, they started the Poppy Appeal with the help of Anna Guérin

8. The poppies in 1921 were made from silk or cotton, and they helped the British Legion to raise £106,000

9. After the Second World War, the British legion decided to make the Poppy Appeal a commemoration of both wars, and of all in the Armed Forces who have lost their lives whilst serving their country

10. Nowadays, about 45 million poppies are bought and worn each year

11. The money raised from the Poppy Appeal helps the Legion to support veterans of all ages, current members of the Services, and their families who still need care and support
**Word Search**

Can you find all the words below?

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- Poppy
- Remembrance
- Soldier
- Wreath
- Armistice
- November
- War
- Cross
- Peace
- Ceremony
- Silence
Colouring in

Can you colour in some of Michael Foreman’s illustrations from *Poppy Field*? Give it a go below, and remember that the colour of the poppy is red.
MICHAEL MORPURGO

POPPY FIELD

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