

CHALLENGE: To ensure that our members have a fundamental understanding of what their great grandparents, grandparents and in some cases their parents were called upon to do to defend our freedom and democracy that we enjoy today. . To ensure that Remembrance Day is afforded the respect and dignity it rightly deserves and maintains its place among the great traditions of our country.

Qualifications: All Branches do first 3 challenges plus one from the Active Option.. Then Sparks and Brownies do 1 challenge from each other option, Guides and up do 2 from each option.

Compulsory Challenges

1. Attend a Remembrance Day service
2. Learn about the poppy campaign and purchase a poppy
3. Find and share a story, song or poem suitable for Remembrance Day

Active option

- 1, Baseball became the organized sport in the 1939 -1945 era. The present day American peacemakers have taken baseball to the children in Afghanistan. Plan and participate in a baseball game – invite your moms to play!
2. Big Band and Dance marathons were a hit. Discover how to do the dances of this era- some to include could be Lindy Hop, Jive, Congo, Charleston, Shimmy. Dance to the music from 1920s, 1940s, or 1950s.
3. Play a game that was popular in this era such as Pop goes the Weasel or Oranges and Lemons Skipping, Leap Frog, Hopscotch, Marbles, paper and pencil games and card games.
4. Learn some games that Children in Afghanistan play such as Bujul bazi, tup-dandeh,eagle, kabadi or sang chill bazi
5. Afghanistan children also love to fly kites, make a kite and fly it.
6. Set up and complete an obstacle course suitable for the branch.

Creative Option

1. Make a poppy and learn about why we wear a poppy.
2. Participate in Valentines for Vets Check locally for veterans to give valentines to or use address included in resource package
3. Enter one of the Legion contests – Poster or Literacy
4. Prepare a recipe from a 1939- 1945 cookbook
5. Write a film script/prepare a video on the life of a veteran.
6. Make peace cranes
- 7 Make a Peace Wreath – patterns in resource package or make a Remembrance day wreath of your choice
8. Find out about the fashion world in the 1920s, 1940s Or 1950s.. Explore clothing, hairstyles, music, food and decorations of the time. . .
9. Do an activity of your choice that would showcase your creativity

Skill development Option

1. Do activities in colouring book –Sparks and Brownies only
2. Find examples of wartime art (such as posters or paintings), books and stories, poetry and music to show and talk about with your peers. Discuss what their purpose was during the war, why they were important, and what makes them unique.
3. Learn about the memorials to commemorate the service of Canadian troops around the world. Show them on a map .For information on Canadian memorials, visit the “Memorials” section of the veterans Affairs Canada website. Design and construct your own monument. Organize a visit to your local Cenotaph or war memorial to study the inscription found on it.
4. Prepare a family tree indicating who has served in wartime.
- 5, Pretend you are one of the people named : Kathleen Christie – a nursing sister who became a prisoner of war in Hong Kong, , Farley Mowatt a renowned author, General Harry Crerar the commander of the

- First Canadian army, Captain John Foote a chaplain who earned the Victoria cross at Dieppe or anyone who served in the war. And write a letter home describing your experiences
6. Plan, organize or participate in a debate or discussion looking at how Canada's military history still influences us.
 7. Organize a concert featuring music from the war-era. Take the concert to a nursing home and perform for the residents
 8. Show/watch a film on Canada's role in the wars and peace missions of the 20th and 21st centuries.
 9. Visit local nursing home to spend time with those that are from the wartime generation. Prepare a list of questions before going and report
 10. Research how Canadians on the home front supported the war effort
 11. Interview a Veteran, soldier, relative, family friend, war bride, nurse, factory worker or another person that was impacted by the war. Ask about his or her wartime experiences and how they contributed to the war effort.
 12. Find out information about National Peacekeepers Day – when it is, who started it, why it is recognized also learn about Canadian Landmine Foundation
 13. At any given time, more than 2900 Canadian military are deployed overseas. Find out what countries they are in and then discover something about one of those countries. Include, climate, education, employment, what do the children do, As a unit, post a message to our troops at:
at:<http://www.forces.gc.ca/site/commun/message/message-view-voir-eng.asp>
 14. Use it up, Wear it out, Make it do or Do Without Learn about what was rationed in wartime, demonstrate how people "made do" (mending, fixing, recycling) during wartime and explain why they did so.
 15. Do an activity of your choice Use your own ideas and topics to create a challenge for this program area.

Community Service/bridging Option

1. Ask a veteran or present day peacemaker to visit your unit. If this is not possible, listen to Veterans and Canadian Forces members talk about their experiences on the "Heroes Remember" feature of the Veterans Affairs Canada website.
2. Ask a war bride to visit your unit ...Ask her to describe what it was like to marry a Canadian soldier and move to a new country. Discuss what challenges war brides faced in Canada at the time.
3. In recognition of Canada's present day peacekeepers, participate in Postcards for Peace.
4. Participate in Operation Santa Claus. Make a Christmas card for a deployed member. These are included in packages sent to the forces donated by Canadian companies. These cards/letters are very much appreciated by those far from home. The letters we do this year will not be sent til August in time for Christmas 2010 so do not include date sensitive material. Please send finished cards to Evelyn Paddock and she will get them to where they have to be. Put the whole units cards in a large envelope and put unit address on envelope
5. Organize, participate in, or attend a candlelight tribute ceremony at a cemetery to remember citizens in your community, who died during military service to Canada,
6. Plant a tree or tulip or entire garden in commemoration of local veterans and war dead or present day peacemakers
7. Find pen pals and rekindle friendships between Canada and her European allies...
8. Adopt a veteran grave. Visit and care for the grave, with the permission of the person's family or the cemetery. You could weed, plant flowers, clean headstone..
9. As a unit, write letters or make cards to send to deployed members. See the resource section for instructions on how to mail. Only correspondence accepted- no care packages write to the troops and Overseas Operation Addresses
10. If you don't see anything that interests you on this list, use your own ideas and topics to create a challenge for this program area

Visit sites: www.vac-acc.gc.ca – Veterans Affairs or
www.legion.ca/ - Royal Canadian Legion

** Be sure when arranging speakers that they are age appropriate

We gratefully acknowledge and would like to thank the Royal Canadian Legion and Veterans affairs for the contributions made to this resource material. Permission has been received to reproduce this material for educational purposes.

Be sure to contact your local Royal Canadian Legion as they will be a tremendous help in setting up some of the activities.

Other supporters are:

- Royal Canadian Legion Branch 3
- United Nations Peacekeepers website
- Dominion Command, The Royal Canadian Legion
86 Aird Place, Ottawa, ON K2L 0A1
- Military Family resource centre – Shilo, Manitoba

1. **Legion Teachers Guide** - http://www.legion.ca/Poppy/teachers_e.cfm

Includes a brief history of Canadian Military, Symbols, Poppy Campaign material, Stories, songs and Poems. Activities, National contests **Download Coloring book "Take Time To Remember "from this site**

2. **Requirements for Legion Poster and Literacy contests**-http://www.legion.ca/Poppy/contests_e.cfm **Download rules and application form for poster and literacy contest**

*3.**Information about the Poppy Campaign** - http://www.legion.ca/Poppy/campaign_e.cfm

4. **Veterans Affairs – youth and educators section** http://www.vac-acc.gc.ca/remembers/sub.cfm?source=activities/kidszone/tales_animals/2008/vw08_tguide#tphp

5. **Veterans Affairs Teachers Guide** http://www.vac-acc.gc.ca/content/teach_resources/vw08_tguide/vw08_tguide_eng.pdf
* **index on disc**

6. **Veterans Affairs – kid zone** – lots of great ideas <http://www.vac-acc.gc.ca/remembers/sub.cfm?source=activities/kidszone/colour/coloring> * **index on disc**

*7.**Valentines for Vets**- <http://www.vac-acc.gc.ca/youth/sub.cfm?source=feature/valentine>

*8.**Postcards for Peace** -<http://www.vac-acc.gc.ca/remembers/sub.cfm?source=feature/vetweek/postpeace>

*9. Instructions to make **Peace Cranes**

*10. Instructions to make **wreathes** a, Sparks and brownies b. Guides and up

*11. **Wartime recipes**

12. **A Candlelight Tribute Ceremony** –

*13. **List of Books to Read**

14. **Stories, Songs and Poems** available in Teachers Guide -http://www.legion.ca/Poppy/teachers_e.cfm

*15. **Current Military Operations** - <http://www.comfec-cefcom.forces.gc.ca/pa-ap/ops/index-eng.asp>

*16. **Games** that children play in Afghanistan

*17. **Index page for Legion Teachers Guide** -http://www.legion.ca/Poppy/teachers_e.cfm

*18 **Youth Corner Index – Veterans Affairs** <http://vac-acc.gc.ca/youth/sub.cfm?source=activities/youthcorner>
great ideas

*19. Info on **Operation Santa Claus**

*20. Info on **Write to the Troops** along with Addresses for Overseas Operations* on disc

21 Lots of **free resource material**, booklets, DVD, etc on Veterans Affairs site under Youth and Educators

* Info on a disc