

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/watch/poppies>

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**Reflect on what you have seen in this animation  
with your partner.... Why is this significant?**



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 World War I ended. It is sometimes known as Armistice day.

Poppies are worn on Remembrance Day because they are the flowers which grew on the battlefields after World War I ended.

They represent that something beautiful can flourish even in the middle of chaos and destruction

Today, we are going to write poetry to mark Remembrance day based on the short animation we watched at the start of today's lesson.

This is going to be a poem **contrasting** two main ideas.

### In Flanders' Fields

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.

Major John McCrae, 1915



## It's important to keep in mind...

War poems often have similar features, like:

Effective words

Aural and visual language

Emotive language

Attention to detail

You want your poem to depict what war would be like.

Think about some effective words like:

- Onomatopoeia – words that sound like the sound they make such as 'bang' or 'pop'. These words reflect the sound of the battle.
- Alliteration – repetition of a consonant sound which would indicate the sound of the bombs dropping or guns.
- Simile – describing something as like or as something else (to describe how the soldiers looked/felt/were injured).
- Personification – giving objects or things human qualities (to make the weapons/war seem more frightening).
- Rhyme – sound patterning and rhythm (to reflect the sound of the war).



Think about the two scenes and what would be able to be

- seen
- heard
- felt

There was....

But then, there was....