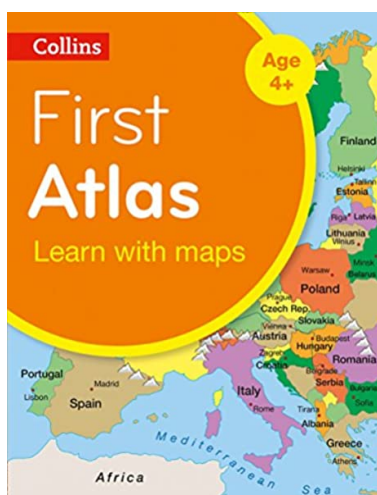


Today, we are learning about a city called Ypres which is in a country called Belgium.

Let's use the atlases to locate Belgium.





<https://earth.google.com/web/>



During World War 1, Belgium was a **neutral** country. This meant that they didn't take sides during the war.



However, Germany decided to invade Belgium which made people very cross. This lead to the First Battle of Ypres and during World War 1, there were many battles here.



These battles resulted in the whole city of Ypres being **obliterated**.



After the war, the town of Ypres was rebuilt using the money that Germany had to pay after they lost the war.

They built it as close to the original design of the city as possible.



When Year 6 visit France and Belgium, they visit Ypres and they go to the war museum and to see the war memorials that are there today.



**In Flanders Field
museum**



**Menin gate war
memorial**



The Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, often referred to simply as the Menin Gate, bears the names of more than 54,000 soldiers who died in Belgium and have no known grave.

Between October 1914 and September 1918 hundreds of thousands of servicemen of the British Empire marched through the town of Ypres's Menin Gate on their way to the battlefields. The memorial now stands as a reminder of those who died who have no known grave and is perhaps one of the most well-known war memorials in the world.

Every evening the road under the Menin gate is closed for the playing of The Last Post. People remember all of the people who lost their lives during the war.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a00XzauTgms&safety_mode=true&safe=active&persist_safety_mode=1)

[v=a00XzauTgms&safety_mode=true&safe=active&persist_safety_mode=1](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a00XzauTgms&safety_mode=true&safe=active&persist_safety_mode=1)



People also lay poppy wreaths on the memorial.

Poppies were the first flowers to grow on the battlefields after the war was over.



<https://sugarspiceandglitter.com/paper-poppy-craft/>



