WWI AND AUSTRALIAN SOCIETY

YEARS 3-6

Setting the Scene

World War I started just 13 years after Australia became a nation and was the first time we came together as 'Australians'.

After the Gallipoli landings, ANZAC soldiers became known and respected around their world for their courage, endurance and mateship. Approximately 400,000 soldiers enlisted in World War I and 60,000 never returned home.

While some families changed forever as their loved ones did not return, war also changed society at home. Throughout the war and as soldiers returned home, the roles of women changed.

Watch the video World War I and Australian Society and answer the following questions.
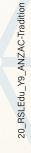
How did men help the war effort?

Far left photo courtesy of State Library of Victoria

Left photo courtesy of National Library of Australia

What did women do to help the war effort?

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What do you think the roles of men and women were before the war?

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Why do you think the opinions of Australia and Australians changed after World War I?

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At the end of the war, meetings were held between world leaders to decide how to keep peace and recover. The American president thought that the Australian Prime Minister should not have a presence in these meetings. Why do you think the opinions of Australia changed after World War I?

Australian Prime Minister William Billy Hughes with Australian WWI troops.
Photo courtesy of Australian War Memorial

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