

## WORLD WAR I

### FINDING OUT

War memorials or cenotaphs have been erected in towns and cities all over Australia. These memorials honour Australians who have served in war.

Ask an adult to help you visit your nearest war memorial or find pictures of one in your area. Read the list of names that appear on the monument. All these people once lived in your area. Write down any names that are familiar to you, or any unusual names.

Ask an older person if they have known anyone who lost their life while serving in Australia's Defence Forces. Can you find their names on the memorial?

### SORTING OUT

Look at your list of names. All these people risked their lives to keep others safe and keep peace in the world. They would have endured great hardship during their war service.

Does anyone on your list share your name? Are any of them members of your family? What else do you know about them?

Choose one of the people to research. Think about what you want to find out. List some questions you have about their military service. For example: what was their rank? Where and when did they serve? Were they awarded any medals or special honours?

#### Related content:

- [www.rsleducation.com.au/Themes/Commemoration/years-3---6/World-War-I](http://www.rsleducation.com.au/Themes/Commemoration/years-3---6/World-War-I)



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### TAKING ACTION

Use the research project to research your chosen person. Follow the steps to search the records at the Australian War Memorial, the National Archives of Australia and the Commonwealth War Graves Commission.

Read the information carefully. Make notes as you find relevant or interesting information. Many of the scanned documents from the National Archives are quite old. You might need to ask for help from an adult to read handwritten information.

Talk to someone about what you found out. Explain how this person contributed to their country and to all Australians. How do you feel about the sacrifices this person made?

#### Related content:

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### TEACHERS' NOTES

The research project provides an excellent opportunity for students to undertake purposeful research using authentic historical records. If your local war memorial is accessible, consider arranging a visit with your class to collect names of local service personnel for research. Remind students before the visit about the respectful behaviour that is appropriate at such sites.

Primary sources such as military records and digitised documents can be augmented by a visit from a veteran with firsthand experience of wartime service. Consider contacting your local RSL Queensland Sub Branch to invite a member to your classroom to assist students with their research. They might also describe situations that local veterans experienced during their service, or after their return. To find your local RSL Queensland Sub Branch, please visit [www.rslqld.org/Contact-Us/Sub-Branches](http://www.rslqld.org/Contact-Us/Sub-Branches)

Students can communicate the results of their research in various ways: written biography; oral or audio presentation; poster; digital slide show; or timeline. Information compiled by students about each research subject could be collected in a book and added to your school's resource centre or incorporated during commemorative events at the school on ANZAC Day or Remembrance Day.

This resource supports the following Humanities and Social Sciences (History) Content Descriptions and General Capability:

- ACHASSI053 and 074 Locate and collect information and data from different sources, including observations
- ACHASSI095 and 123 Locate and collect relevant information and data from primary sources and secondary sources
- ACHASSI098 and 126 Examine primary sources and secondary sources to determine their origin and purpose
- ACHASSK064 Days and weeks celebrated or commemorated in Australia (including Australia Day, ANZAC Day, and National Sorry Day) and the importance of symbols and emblems
- ACHASSK137 The contribution of individuals and groups to the development of Australian society since Federation
- Personal and social capability: social awareness

