

UNDERSTANDING ANZAC AND REMEMBRANCE DAYS

On ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day, we remember the thousands of Australians who have risked their lives so we can live in peace and safety. If you have been to an ANZAC or Remembrance Day service you might have noticed there are some special elements – someone reads The Ode, a bugler sounds the Last Post and people wear rosemary or poppies. Do you know why these things are significant and what they mean?

FINDING OUT

Find Gaba Tepe on a map of the Gallipoli Peninsula in Turkey. How far is it from where you live? Make a list of some other conflicts in which Australia has been involved. Find these places on a world map. Think about what it means for the men and women of our Defence Forces to travel to these places, risking their lives and safety far away from their homes, friends and families.

Ask an older person about the Last Post: where it comes from and why it is sounded at Dawn Services on ANZAC Day. Ask them to help you find a recording of the Last Post online. Listen with your eyes closed.

SORTING OUT

Read again the words of The Ode on Slide 4. Who is The Ode talking about? How do these words make you feel? What promise are we making when we recite The Ode?

Talk with an older person about why ANZAC and Remembrance Days are still being observed more than 100 years after World War I. Why do you think it is important to continue these traditions?

Related content:

- www.rsleducation.com.au/Themes/Commemoration/years-3---6/Understanding-ANZAC-and-Remembrance-Days



UNDERSTANDING ANZAC AND REMEMBRANCE DAYS

TAKING ACTION

Choose one line from the Ode of Remembrance that seems special or important to you. Make a poster with these special words. Draw or find a picture to illustrate your poster. Use this poster to help you commemorate ANZAC Day at home.

A cenotaph is a monument that commemorates people who have died in another place. Most towns and cities in Australia have a cenotaph, or memorial, built to honour Australians who have served in war. Ask an adult to help you find your nearest memorial. What symbols do you see on and around the cenotaph? Read the words on the plaque and look at the list of names. Why do you think it is important to honour these people in this way?

Related content:

- www.rsleducation.com.au/Themes/Commemoration/years-3---6/Understanding-ANZAC-and-Remembrance-Days



UNDERSTANDING ANZAC AND REMEMBRANCE DAYS

TEACHERS' NOTES

If it is not feasible to visit a local cenotaph with your students, collect some photographs of the war memorials in your region. Have students compare and contrast the elements incorporated and any emblems or symbols used.

Linking with the English curriculum, older students can be introduced to Laurence Binyon's poem, *For the Fallen* — from which comes the Ode of Remembrance — in its entirety. Talk about Binyon's audience and purpose for writing the poem. Discuss how our written expression has changed in the hundred years since this poem was written.

During the school's observance of ANZAC Day, encourage students to identify and recall the main elements of the service, as set out by Canon Garland. Students who are descended from veterans may recall marching in their place at ANZAC Day parades and can share their experiences, thoughts and memories with the class.

Contact your local RSL Queensland Sub Branch to invite a member to visit the school and talk with your students about ANZAC and Remembrance Days, and what these events mean to the Defence family. Older members can share their memories of these events in the past and discuss how the ways they are commemorated have changed or stayed the same.

To find your local RSL Queensland Sub Branch, please visit www.rslqld.org/Contact-Us/Sub-Branches

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

- 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

