

Veterans Day

November 11

Word Search



See how many of these newspaper related words you can find in the puzzle.
The words can be forward, backward or diagonal.

Created by Sue Lippert
Revised by Sue Lippert 2011

- | | | | |
|-------------|--------------|---------------|-------------|
| 1. Veterans | 5. Armistice | 9. Holiday | 13. Medals |
| 2. Honor | 6. Character | 10. Courage | 14. History |
| 3. Service | 7. Soldiers | 11. Wars | 15. Hero |
| 4. Military | 8. Americans | 12. Sacrifice | 16. Thanks |

VETERANS DAY

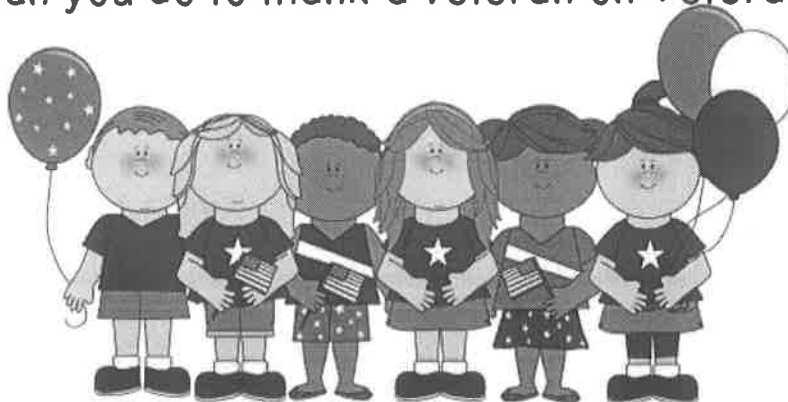
Veterans Day is a holiday we celebrate to show thanks for our Veterans. Veterans are men and women who served in the armed forces in our country. This means that they are a part of the U.S. military. Veterans include those who were in the Army, Navy, Coast Guard, Air Force, or Marines.

It takes bravery and honor to serve in the U.S. Military. Many people in our military need to travel far from their families for long periods of time. They miss holidays, birthdays and special family events. The members of our military also risk their lives as their work is very dangerous. They do it because they know that their job is important to keeping our country safe!

Veterans Day is celebrated on November 11th. The reason it is celebrated on the 11th is because fighting in World War I ended on the 11th day of the 11th month at the 11th hour.

On Veterans Day, many people choose to honor veterans in different ways. Schools, post offices, banks and many other businesses close and take a day off to honor Veterans Day. Some people write letters to thank veterans for their service.

What can you do to thank a veteran on Veterans Day?



Honoring Veterans

On Veterans Day, Americans take time to salute the men and women who have served in the U.S. military

By Zach Jones | null null , null

Source: Scholastic News Online

November 11 is Veterans Day. On this day, Americans honor veterans—former members of the U.S. armed services.

The holiday began as a way to commemorate November 11, 1918—the day fighting ended in World War I. But today, Veterans Day honors all former U.S. soldiers.

Parades and ceremonies are held across the nation to recognize all the men and women who have served in the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, and Coast Guard. Some people gather to raise the American flag and sing the national anthem. Many groups also hold memorial services for veterans who have died, either during combat or peacetime.

National observance of Veterans Day takes place at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia. The tomb holds the remains of a soldier who died in combat during World War I, but whose body could not be identified. By honoring his tomb, Americans show respect to all soldiers who have given their lives in service to the United States.

Millions of Americans visit the tomb every year. Today, Vice President Joe Biden laid a wreath on the soldier's tomb.

President Barack Obama met with servicemen stationed in South Korea during his tour of Asia this week. In Germany, the First Lady surprised U.S. military personnel and their families by putting on an apron and helping to serve food at a special Veterans Day meal.

Did you know that other countries also celebrate the contributions of their veterans today? In Canada, the holiday is called Remembrance Day. People in the United Kingdom observe two minutes of silence to remember soldiers who died in combat.

Veterans' Day Facts



- Veterans' Day is always observed on November 11.
- On Veterans' Day, Americans honor all living military veterans, including the many working moms who are veterans of military service.
- Veterans' Day is celebrated with speeches and parades across the U.S.
- The holiday began as Armistice Day on Nov. 11, 1919, the first anniversary of the end of World War I.
- In 1926, Congress passed a resolution for an annual observance.
- In 1938, Nov. 11 became a national holiday.

- In 1954, President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed legislation changing the name to Veterans' Day in order to honor veterans of all American wars.
- On November 11, 1921, an unidentified American soldier killed in the war was buried at Arlington National Cemetery in Washington, D.C. It is called the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. An official wreath-laying ceremony is held each Veterans' Day at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National Cemetery. Usually the president, or another high-ranking government official, lays the wreath on the grave.
- Britain, France, Australia and Canada also commemorate the veterans of World Wars I and II on or near November 11th. Canada has Remembrance Day, while Britain has Remembrance Sunday (the second Sunday of November). In Europe, Britain and the Commonwealth countries it is common to observe two minutes of silence at 11 a.m. every November 11.
- Veterans' Day should not be confused with Memorial Day. According to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, "Memorial Day (the fourth Monday in May) honors American service members who died in service to their country or as a result of injuries incurred during battle, while Veterans Day pays tribute to all American veterans—living or dead—but especially gives thanks to living veterans who served their country honorably during war or peacetime."

Veterans Day 2009



Student Resources



WALT DISNEY GOES TO WAR

An important factor ensuring America's ultimate victory over the Axis Powers in World War II was the overwhelming and unwavering support of the Home Front. Contributing much to creating and maintaining that Home Front support were Walt Disney films. Meanwhile, morale-boosting Disney-designed insignia that soon appeared on planes, trucks, flight jackets, and other military equipment accomplished the same for American and Allied forces.



Hal Olsen, a professional nose artist, paints "The Ruptured Duck" on the nose of a B-25B bomber at the Pacific Aviation Museum on Ford Island, Hawaii, to commemorate the historical aircraft's exhibit. Olsen, a retired naval aviation mechanic, started his art career more than 60 years ago during World War II. U.S. Navy photo.

During the war Disney made films for every branch of the U.S. government. Typical of the films was the 1943 "The Spirit of '43," produced at the request of the Secretary of the Treasury, Henry Morgenthau, Jr. The film depicted Donald Duck dealing with federal income taxes and pointing out the benefit of paying his taxes in support of the American war effort.

At the Navy's request, the Disney Studios also produced, in just three months, some 90,000 feet of training film to educate sailors on navigation tactics. Disney animators also worked closely with Hollywood producer Frank Capra and created what many consider to be the most brilliant animated maps to appear in a series of seven highly successful "Why We Fight" films.

During the war, over 90 percent of Disney employees were devoted to the production of training and propaganda films. In all, the Disney Studios produced some 400,000 feet of film representing some 68 hours of continuous film. Included among the films produced was "Der Fuehrer's Face," again featuring Donald Duck. It won the Oscar as the best animated film for 1943.

WALT DISNEY CONT.

Perhaps the importance of the Disney Studios to the war effort is best demonstrated by the fact that the U.S. Army deployed troops to protect the facilities, the only Hollywood studio accorded such treatment.

During World War I, while serving as a Red Cross ambulance driver, Walt Disney embellished his ambulance and other vehicles with drawings and cartoon figures. Thus, he came to appreciate the importance of humorous insignia to unit morale and esprit-de-corps. It is not surprising, therefore, that during World War II Disney artists often used their talents to design military insignia and emblems.

For example, in 1942 the Navy asked Disney to design an emblem appropriate for its new fleet of Navy torpedo boats known as "mosquito boats." In response, Disney provided its famous emblem of a mosquito riding a torpedo, which soon adorned all of the newly constructed PT boats. At the request of the China Defense Supplies organization, the Disney Studios also designed a winged tiger flying through a large V for victory for the world famous "Flying Tigers." By war's end, the Disney Studios had produced over 1,200 insignias for both the U.S. Army and Navy, as well as Allied units, without ever charging a fee.

By Lisa Briner, US Army Heritage and Education Center

ABOUT THIS STORY: Many of the sources presented in this article are among 400,000 books, 1.7 million photos and 12.5 million manuscripts available for study through the U.S. Army Military History Institute (MHI). The artifacts shown are among nearly 50,000 items of the Army Heritage Museum (AHM) collections. MHI and AHM are part of the: Army Heritage and Education Center (AHEC), 950 Soldiers Drive, Carlisle, PA, 17013-5021.

For additional information on the US Army Heritage and Education Center, please visit: www.carlisle.army.mil/ahec/index.cfm.



Shoulder Sleeve insignia of the Womens Auxiliary Ferrying Squadron, later called the Womens Army Service Pilots. The patch depicts the Walt Disney Studios designed "Fifnella," coming in for a landing. Army Heritage Museum patch.

“TO HONOR VETERANS OF ALL WARS”

Raymond Weeks of Birmingham, Alabama, organized a Veterans Day parade for that city on November 11, 1947, to honor all of America's Veterans for their loyal service. Later, U.S. Representative Edward H. Rees of Kansas proposed legislation changing the name of Armistice Day to Veterans Day to honor all who have served in America's Armed Forces.

In 1954, President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed a bill proclaiming November 11th as Veterans Day and called upon Americans everywhere to rededicate themselves to the cause of peace. He issued a Presidential Order directing the head of the Veterans Administration, now the Department of Veterans Affairs, to form a Veterans Day National Committee to organize and oversee the national observance of Veterans Day. In addition to fulfilling that mission, the committee oversees the annual production and distribution of the annual Veterans Day poster and this Teacher Resource Guide.



Eisenhower Presidential Library

June 1, 1954: President Eisenhower signs HR7786, changing Armistice Day to Veterans Day. Standing are: Alvin J. King, Wayne Richards, Arthur J. Connell, John T. Nation, Edward Rees, Richard L. Trombla, Howard W. Watts.

In 1968, Congress moved Veterans Day to the fourth Monday in October. However, it became apparent that the November 11th date was historically significant to a great many Americans. As a result, Congress formally returned the observance of Veterans Day to its traditional date in 1978.

The Veterans Day National Ceremony is held each year on November 11th at Arlington National Cemetery. At 11 a.m., a color guard, made up of members from each of the military services, renders honors to America's war dead during a tradition-rich ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknowns.

The President or his representative places a wreath at the Tomb and a bugler sounds "Taps." The balance of the ceremony, including a "Parade of Flags" by numerous Veterans service organizations, takes place inside the Memorial Amphitheater, adjacent to the Tomb.

In addition to planning and coordinating the National Veterans Day Ceremony, the Veterans Day National Committee supports a number of Veterans Day Regional Sites. These sites conduct Veterans Day celebrations that provide excellent examples for other communities to follow. For a listing of these sites, please visit: www.va.gov/opa/vetsday/regsites.asp.

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN VETERANS DAY AND MEMORIAL DAY?

Many people confuse Memorial Day and Veterans Day. Both holidays were established to recognize and honor the men and women who have worn the uniform of the United States Armed Forces. But Memorial Day, which is observed on the last Monday in May, was originally set aside as a day for remembering and honoring military personnel who died in the service of their country, particularly those who died in battle or as a result of wounds sustained in battle.

While those who died are also remembered on Veterans Day, which is observed on November 11, Veterans Day is intended to thank and honor all those who served honorably in the military - in wartime or peacetime. In fact, Veterans Day is largely intended to thank living Veterans for their service, to acknowledge that their contributions to our national security are appreciated, and to underscore the fact that all those who served - not only those who died - have sacrificed and done their duty.

To ensure the sacrifices of America's fallen heroes are never forgotten, in December 2000, the U.S. Congress passed and the president signed into law "The National Moment of Remembrance Act," P.L. 106-579, creating the White House Commission on the National Moment of Remembrance. The commission's charter is to "encourage the people of the United States to give something back to their country, which provides them so much freedom and opportunity" by encouraging and coordinating commemorations in the United States of Memorial Day and the National Moment of Remembrance.

The National Moment of Remembrance encourages all Americans to pause wherever they are at 3 p.m. local time on Memorial Day for a minute of silence to remember and honor those who have died in service to the nation. For information on the National Moment of Remembrance, please visit: www.remember.gov.

Fort Smith National Cemetery



“A SOLDIER KNOWN BUT TO GOD”

In 1921, an American soldier—his name “known but to God”—was buried on a Virginia hillside overlooking the Potomac River and the city of Washington, DC. The burial site of this unknown World War I soldier in Arlington National Cemetery symbolized dignity and reverence for America’s veterans.

Similar ceremonies occurred earlier in England and France, where an “unknown soldier” of the Great War was buried in each nation’s highest place of honor (in England, Westminster Abbey; in France, the Arc de Triomphe).

These memorial gestures all took place on November 11, giving universal recognition to the celebrated ending of World War I hostilities at 11 a.m., November 11, 1918 (the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month). The day became known as “Armistice Day.”

Armistice Day officially received its name in America in 1926 through a Congressional resolution. It became a national holiday 12 years later by similar Congressional action. If World War I had indeed been “the war to end all wars,” November 11 might still be called Armistice Day. But in 1939, World War II broke out in Europe and shattered that dream. Of the 16 million Americans who served in the Armed Forces during World War II, more than 400,000 died.

Department of Defense

