









## Armed Forces Day - Activity Ideas for Key Stage Two

- Join a national "salute" to the Forces through the #SaluteOurForces campaign, which asks people to send an image of the simple gesture.
- Find photos and write captions to explain what is happening.
- Research different Armed Forces and create a collage.
- Find local news articles about the work of the Armed Forces and how they have been celebrated in your area.
- Gardens and public spaces are often created to remember or celebrate a person, group or event. Why not put aside a corner in your school grounds and plant flowers or a tree as a reminder to pupils of the work of our Armed Forces.
- Watch history as it happened The British Film Institute and Imperial War Museum have film archives available to schools in the UK. You can search online, and could even find out if there are film clips with local relevance.
- Use the Royal Navy, Army and Royal Air Force websites to find out about where our Armed Forces are deployed around the world.
  - Plot locations on a map or globe
  - Find out about each location or country
    <u>www.royalnavy.mod.uk</u> <u>www.army.mod.uk</u> <u>www.raf.mod.uk</u>
- Our Armed Forces provide help when it's needed in the UK. Search news websites and find out more about how they helped UK citizens, for example during the Cumbrian floods of 2009.
  - Write a celebratory poem or story
  - Create and video a role-played news programme explaining how the Armed Forces provided help
- Watch a video of military music, for example from Trooping the Colour or the Edinburgh Military Tattoo
  - $\circ$   $\,$  Discuss the feelings and emotions that this sort of music can create
  - Listen to some famous military songs and tunes to gain insight into how conflict affects communities.

# KS2 Activities - Learn about the Second World War

### <u>History</u>

What was life like during the war? For children:

- <u>https://www.iwm.org.uk/history/growing-up-in-the-second-world-war</u>
- <u>http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/war/children.htm</u>

For people at home:

- <u>https://www.bbc.co.uk/history/ww2peopleswar/stories/39/a5756439.sht</u> <u>ml</u>
- <u>http://www.localhistories.org/secondlife.html</u>

You could do some research into the different posters and slogans that were posted everywhere during the Second World War. You might recognise some of them: 'Keep Calm and Carry On' is everywhere today, but although it was designed for WW2, it wasn't actually used a lot as the government thought that maybe it was over the top and patronising!



For soldiers:

If you are brave and curious, there are lots of websites on this (google World War 2), but some of them are quite upsetting as they show what war was really like- hard and brutal. So perhaps research this with a parent.

• <u>http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/Britain.html</u> (this is written for Primary school children)

Things you could do:

1. Design a propaganda poster to encourage people to grow their own vegetables: <u>http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/war/campaigns.htm</u>



2. Write a newspaper article. You could: report on news from the front line in France; report on the Blitz in London; report on the good work that the Land Army is doing in Somerset. Here is some advice on how to write a newspaper:

https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z2yycdm/articles/z2gk9qt or https://www.earlylearninghq.org.uk/latest-resources/world-war-iihistoric-newspaper-reports/

# <u>English</u>

Imagine that you live in 1945.

You are a child living in Somerset. You are very thankful that you do not live in London, find out why here:

<u>http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/war/evacuation1.html</u>. However, you will miss the children who came to live with your family during the war.

Your father had been away, fighting in France. Your Mother had looked after you and your 'adopted' brother and sister, evacuees from London. Your elder sister worked in the Land Army; times were changing for women:

http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/war/women.htm

Write an entry in your diary about your thoughts and feelings at this time. You might like to think about:

- W what you are feeling happy (or sad) about
- What life has been like for the last few years
- What your hopes are for the coming years, for you, your family and your country

### <u>Art</u>

- You could learn how the Union Flag is designed and paint some as decorations or bunting
- Research: what is the Union Flag (or Union Jackwhat is the difference?) and what do the different colours and stripes mean?

https://theculturetrip.com/europe/united-kingdom/articles/9-things-you-didntknow-about-the-union-jack-flag/



#### Music

Research 'Dame Vera Lynn' and the music of the 1940s on Google or YouTube. If you know how to do it (on Apple Music or YouTube), you could create a playlist of music for the party.

If you play a musical instrument, you could try learning how to play 'We'll Meet Again' which was a very famous song from the time: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cHcunREYzNY

#### We'll Meet Again

We'll meet again Don't know where Don't know when But I know we'll meet again some sunny day

Keep smiling through Just like you always do 'Til the blue skies chase those dark clouds far away

And I will just say hello To the folks that you know Tell them you won't be long They'll be happy to know That as I saw you go You were singing this song

We'll meet again Don't know where Don't know when But I know we'll meet again some sunny day