

The History of the Poppy

Lessons 1 - 3 (Early & First Level)

The History of the Poppy

Lesson Challenges 1-3: Early – First Level

We have designed these lesson challenges for Early and First Level learners who may be new to the story of the Poppy and would enjoy learning more about the history of the Poppy as the symbol of remembrance.

Whether you plan to spend two hours or two weeks teaching and learning about the history of the Poppy, we have gathered a diverse range of activities to help your learners engage meaningfully and creatively in this subject.

The History of the Poppy lesson challenges are arranged over different lesson plans, so you have the option of only doing either just one of the lessons or all. Timings against activities are provided within each lesson plan.

Depending on how much time you have available to devote to learning all about the history of the Poppy, we hope you will find activities within these lessons to suit your work plans.

Please get in touch if you have any questions or ideas you may wish to discuss.

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Lesson Name: The History of the Poppy - Lessons 1 & 2

Level: Early and First

Experiences and outcomes for Lessons 1 & 2

As I listen and take part in conversations and discussions, I discover new words and phrases which I use to help me express my ideas, thoughts and feelings. **LIT 0-10a**

I can identify my senses and use them to explore the world around me. **SCN 0-12a**

I explore and appreciate the wonder of nature within different environments and have played a part in caring for the environment. **SOC 0-08a**

I enjoy exploring and playing with the patterns and sounds of language, and can use what I learn. **LIT 0-01a**

Having explored the elements which writers use in different genres, I can use what I learn to create my own stories, poems and plays with interesting structures, characters and/or settings. **ENG 1-31a**

Learning Intentions

- I am learning about poppies and why they are important.
- I am learning to create a poem about poppies based on my senses.

Success Criteria

- I can tell you about why poppies are used for remembrance.
- I can write my own poem about poppies using my senses.

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Resources Required

- Printed Poppy Cards: [Poppy Picture Card 1](#) ; [Poppy Picture Card 2](#) and [Poppy Picture Card 3](#) ; [Poppy Picture Card 4](#); [Poppy Picture Card 5](#) or links to files ready to go.
- [‘The Poppy Story Flipbook’ Video](#) (6 minutes, 53 seconds) made by Poppyscotland Learning
- Smartboard
- Whiteboard
- Tablet
- Pupil Jotters
- Internet access – computer for further research

Additional resources

- Teachers Notes for ‘History of the Poppy’ Lessons 1-3
- [The Journey of a Poppy - Animated video for early years learners](#) made by Poppyscotland.
- [YouTube – ‘Red Poppy Fields’ video](#)
- Local garden or park.

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Timings:	Lesson 1: History of the Poppy: Learning ‘The Poppy Story’.
1-2 minutes 10-15 minutes: Starter	<p>Explain Learning Intentions and Success Criteria for lesson.</p> <p>Activity One:</p> <p>Poppy Picture Cards</p> <p>Give out different printed Poppy Picture Cards to each learner to look at: Poppy Picture Card 1 ; Poppy Picture Card 2 and Poppy Picture Card 3 ; Poppy Picture Card 4 , Poppy Picture Card 5 or you could display each Poppy Card one by one on your SmartBoard/Screen for learners to view as a whole group.</p> <p>Working in pairs or as a whole class, ask learners if they can identify any of the activities/objects/situations/types of people depicted in the Poppy Picture Cards.</p> <p>Learners could write their thoughts in their jotters. If working in pairs, learners could then share their thoughts in a whole class discussion. If working as a whole class the teacher could write learners thoughts on the whiteboard.</p>
5-10 minutes	<p>Class Discussion</p> <p>Using the words gathered from your class discussion/s investigate further learners’ prior knowledge and experiences of seeing people wearing poppies around the time of Remembrance Day.</p> <p>Further questions:</p> <p>Is there anything in the pictures that is familiar?</p> <p>Is there something in the pictures that you have never seen before or don’t understand?</p> <p>What colour is a poppy flower? Have you seen anyone wearing poppies before?</p> <p>Why do people wear red poppies each year? Do you have to wear a poppy, or not?</p> <p>Does anyone know the story about how the poppy became so important?</p>

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10-15 minutes	Extra activity: Time permitting learners could colour in the Poppy Picture Cards.
7 minutes	Activity Two: Watch ‘The Poppy Story Flipbook’ Video (6 minutes, 53 seconds) made by Poppyscotland in 2018. ‘The Poppy Story’ flipbook, created for learners aged 4-9 years old, tells the story of how the Poppy became the symbol of Remembrance and why Lady Haig’s Poppy Factory in Edinburgh was built in 1926.
10 minutes	After watching ‘The Poppy Story Flipbook’ Video ask learners to answer the questions below, (individually or as a whole class activity): <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Were poppies sold before or after the war/WW1? <i>(Answer: After the First World War / 1919.)</i>2. Who did the poppy flower remember after the war/WW1? <i>(Answer: Airmen, sailors and soldiers coming home from the First World War – nowadays we call them ex-service personnel or veterans.)</i>3. Why were poppies so important after the war/WW1? <i>(Answer: They were sold to raise money that would then be given to airmen, sailors and soldiers to help them support themselves and their families. People wore them on their lapels to remember those who had died in the war. Wreaths were also available to buy for placing on graves or war memorials.)</i>4. What is the significance of the date 11th November? <i>(Answer: It was on this date in 1919 when the fighting of the First World War ended, and the Armistice agreement was signed. On 11th November, every year since we continue to remember the sacrifice of all those who have fought and died in wars and conflicts (both soldiers and civilians).)</i>5. What moments from the story do you remember the most?6. What images do you remember the most?

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Additional Information about The Poppy Story Book:

Every school in Scotland was gifted a copy of the 'The Poppy Story' book. If you would like additional copies for your school library you can order here: <http://learning.poppyscotland.org.uk/resources/the-poppy-story-book/>

['The Poppy Story' flipbook video in Gaelic](#) is also available.

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	Lesson 2 – History of the Poppy: Creating an acrostic Poppy poem			
1 hr 30 minutes	<p>Activity One Creating a Poppy Poem</p> <p>The purpose of this activity is to enable learners to use their senses both in a local context, e.g. nursery or school garden and a variety of audio-visual stimuli, to create a poem which represents their garden, the poppy as a flower, poppy fields or for older learners, the poppy as a symbol of remembrance.</p> <p>Using the local context as a starting point, let learners explore the area using their senses, remembering what they can see, hear, feel and smell. If you have a Garden of Remembrance in your school grounds this is an ideal opportunity to use it as part of this sensory exploration time.</p> <p>Audio-visual materials are freely available on YouTube, but careful consideration should be taken to view these first to select appropriate resources. Images of poppy fields could also be used as a stimulus e.g. YouTube – ‘Red Poppy Fields’ video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YUgbDSz9-S8</p> <p>To scaffold the writing process, learners could be provided with a template.</p> <p>For example:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="434 991 1946 1345"> <tr> <td data-bbox="434 991 1189 1345"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ In the poppy fields, I see... I hear... I smell... I feel... </td> <td data-bbox="1189 991 1946 1345"> <p>Or, acrostic poems could be created.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ For example: P O P P I E S </td> </tr> </table>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ In the poppy fields, I see... I hear... I smell... I feel... 	<p>Or, acrostic poems could be created.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ For example: P O P P I E S
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ In the poppy fields, I see... I hear... I smell... I feel... 	<p>Or, acrostic poems could be created.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ For example: P O P P I E S 			

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Further activities using this work:

All poems could be illustrated and displayed or made into a group/class wall display or in a book of remembrance poetry.

Finished poems could be read at an event which your nursery or school might want to organise, or exhibited somewhere so that's lots of people can see/hear/read learners work.

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<p>Lesson 3</p> <p>Lesson Name: History of the Poppy: Lady Haig's Poppy Factory</p> <p>Level: Early and First</p>	
<p>Experiences and Outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ I am aware that different types of evidence can help me to find out about the past. (SOC 0-01a) ➤ I can use evidence to recreate the story of a place or individual of local historical interest. (SOC 1-03a) 	<p>Benchmarks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Recognises that people in the past lived differently. (EY) ➤ Names a figure from the past and comments on their role in events. (L1) ➤ Describes at least two ways in which past events or the actions of individuals or groups have shaped Scottish society. (L2)
<p>Learning Intentions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Understanding how Lady Haig's Poppy Factory began ➤ Explaining how this is still relevant in today's society ➤ Researching Lady Haig 	<p>Success Criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Create a fact file profile of Lady Haig ➤ Describe key facts about Lady Haig's Poppy Factory
<p>Resources Required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Pioneering Women Behind the Poppy Poster PDF ➤ Pupil Jotters ➤ Lady Haig Fact File template (or paper as teacher prefers) ➤ Printed Lady Haig Biography PDF ➤ Internet access – computer or tablet for further research 	

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Timings: Lesson 3 - History of the Poppy: Lady Haig's Poppy Factory	
10minutes	Explain Learning Intentions and Success Criteria for lesson
Starter	Class Discussion
2minutes	Where are the poppies that we wear made? Ask learners and see if they have any ideas. What can they remember from watching 'The Poppy Story' flipbook video in Lesson 1? (If they have done this. If you think it will help learners replay 'The Poppy Story' flipbook video please feel free to do so).
15 minutes	Watch the 'The Poppy Story' Flipbook video with learners and answer the three questions (either in jotters as individuals or together as a class depending on teacher preference) <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Where is the factory located and when did it open?2. How many people work there now?3. How many poppies are made every year?
30 minutes or more	Research Task Learners can create their own fact file about Lady Haig using the Lady Haig Biography and Fact File Template . Learners could also do independent internet research or use the 'Pioneering Women Behind The Poppy Timeline Poster (PDF)' to help them begin their research about how Lady Haig and two other wonderful, Anna Guérin and Moira Michael , helped to make the Poppy the symbol of Remembrance around the world, <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Lady Haig Biography➤ Lady Haig Fact File Template➤ Pioneering Women Behind The Poppy Timeline Poster

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Extension:

Learners who finish the task quicker could explore the hidden roles of women in WW1, they could research: e.g. Louisa Jordan, Elsie Inglis or Frances Ivens.