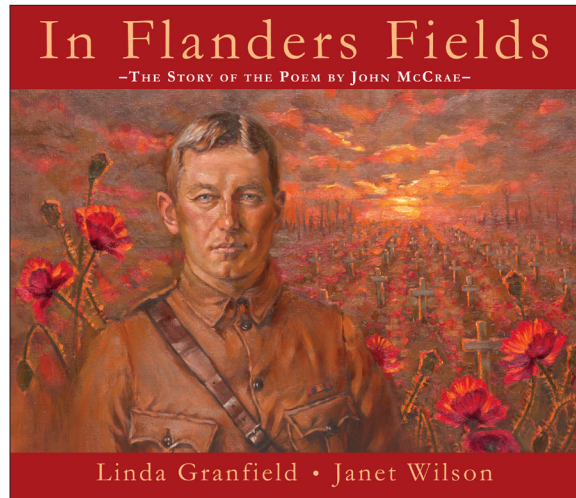


Activities for Young Readers

In Flanders Fields: The Story of the Poem by John McCrae

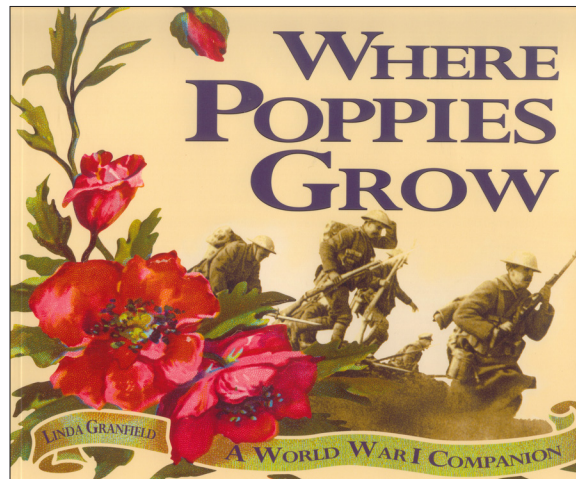
by Linda Granfield, illustrated by Janet Wilson



&

Where Poppies Grow: A World War I Companion

by Linda Granfield



For more information on
Linda Granfield please visit:
www.lindagranfield.com


Fitzhenry & Whiteside
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Activities for Young Readers

for use with **In Flanders Fields** and **Where Poppies Grow**.

Written by Linda Granfield, published by Fitzhenry & Whiteside.

1. Ask an older relative or neighbor if they remember being a child during wartime. Share with your class the stories, photographs, or a souvenir they have given to you. (interviewing and oral presentation skills)
2. Imagine John McCrae as a young student, like you. What do you think his life was like? (He was born in 1872.) How did children dress around 1900? What did they eat? What books did they read and what sports did they play? (research skills)
3. (further to #2) Photocopy or draw examples of the information you find while doing your “Childhood-1900” research and make a bulletin board display of your findings. (display and design skills)
4. McCrae writes in his poem about a bird called a *lark*. Find out what a lark looks like and draw a picture of the bird. Write a six-line poem about the lark, how it sounds and moves through the air. (drawing and language skills)
5. After reading the poem “In Flanders Fields”, design and paint a poster for Memorial Day/Veterans’ Day/Remembrance Day. Consider making part of the poster three-dimensional so it grabs the viewer’s attention. (art skills)
6. World War I happened in the years 1914-1918, long before many styles of modern music. Create your own song in a style of music you enjoy based on the pictures you see in *Where Poppies Grow*. Perform it with some friends for your class. Consider performing it again at a ceremony for veterans in your community. (community awareness and language/music skills)
7. Photocopy the attached word searches for *In Flanders Fields* and *Where Poppies Grow* and share copies with your friends and family. Take some copies to your local Legion or VFW; the veterans there will enjoy doing the puzzle and sharing it with their grandchildren. (community involvement and intergenerational sharing)
8. Make a map of France, Belgium, and/or England. Mark on it the places named in both *In Flanders Fields* and *Where Poppies Grow*. Many battles took place in a very small area of Europe. If a soldier marched to all the places you mark, how many miles/kilometers would he have traveled on foot? (map skills and math estimates/calculations)
9. Be a flag detective. Many countries were involved in World War I. What were the flags of the United States (how many stars in 1918?), United Kingdom, France, Belgium, and Germany? Make a flag poster. How many of the countries’ flags have not changed? (research and art skills)

10. Often during war, food supplies are rationed (available in certain amounts only) and the government prints recipes to help people use less of certain ingredients so that soldiers can eat properly. Sugar had been rationed, and the government encouraged people to cook with less. They also suggested the use of cornmeal instead of flour. Use the attached recipe for *Corn Bread* and bake a batch for the class. (It's extra-tasty spread with grape jelly!) Can you imagine eating it *every* day? (math and science (chemistry) skills)
11. After reading *Where Poppies Grow*, write a few diary pages based on the information you see in the book written by soldiers and children long ago. Make an interesting cover for your diary. (composition and creative writing)
12. Invite a veteran to come to your school and share his/her thoughts about military service. (community/intergenerational contact)
13. Invite a recruiting officer from a local enlistment office to visit your school. What does a young man or woman have to do to become a soldier today? What does "basic training" mean? What skills does a soldier need to have to be in battle or be a part of a peacekeeping force? You may think differently about soldiers after the officer's visit. (community/careers/comparative work with soldiers' training in the past as seen in the books)
14. In 2014 many countries marked the 100th anniversary of World War I and in May 2015 we commemorate 100 years since John McCrae composed "In Flanders Fields". In London, England, 888,246 ceramic poppies were filled around the moat of the Tower of London. It was intended to reflect the magnitude of such an important centenary and create a powerful visual commemoration. What other ceremonies or tributes took place around the world? (research skills) Design your own ceremony or tribute that could take place to commemorate either of these events. (creativity and design skills)



Photo credit: Linda Granfield

The Tower of London, England.

15. Check out some of the many websites devoted to war and peace:

<http://www.warchild.ca> - War Child Canada

<http://www.warmuseum.ca> - Canadian War Museum

<http://www.koreanchildren.org> - The Korean War Children's Memorial

Conduct your own online search. Share your findings with your class. (research, language and presentation skills)

16. Young people throughout history have written letters to soldiers and peacekeepers. Write an online letter to the troops overseas. Below are some useful resources:

Canada

<http://www.forces.gc.ca/en/write-to-the-troops/index.page>

<http://dgpaapp.forces.gc.ca/en/wrt/post-message.asp>

USA

<http://www4.army.mil/OCPA/tooursoldiers/>



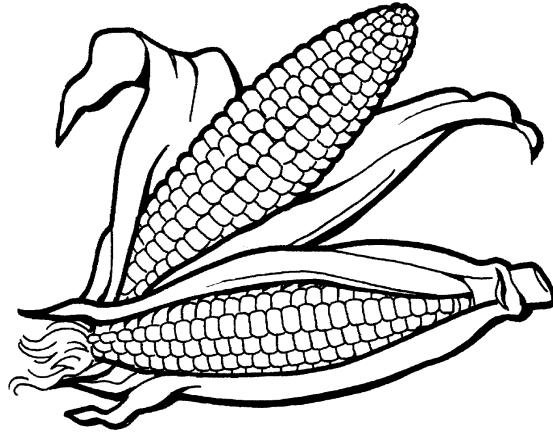
Photo credit: Linda Granfield

Canadian National Vimy Memorial, France.



Photo credit: Linda Granfield

Field of Poppies, France.



CORN BREAD

1 cup yellow cornmeal
1 cup all-purpose flour
 $\frac{1}{4}$ cup sugar
3 teaspoons baking powder
 $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon baking soda
 $\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon salt
1 egg
1 cup buttermilk (or milk with 1 tablespoon white vinegar)
 $\frac{1}{4}$ cup vegetable oil or melted margarine

Preheat oven to 375 degrees.
Lightly grease a 9-inch glass pie plate.

Stir together cornmeal, flour, sugar, baking powder, baking soda, and salt.
Make a well in the center.
Whisk together the milk and egg.
Pour into the well.
Add the margarine/oil and stir just until mixed.
Spread in the pie plate.
Bake until golden, about 22 minutes.
Cut while warm.



WHERE POPPIES GROW

You'll find twenty words about World War I in this hidden-word puzzle.
Look for backwards, forwards, horizontal and diagonal spellings.

A C W H S R E D N A L F P Y
D A Z Z L E S H I P O H P E
R T E O C E P Y Z R L P H S
R E P P A S L O U O O A O W
A I P O T G V Z N P A W I A
C K E T N U L I V A E A P G
W E L I G Z A L E G U I K G
T U I N I N G E Z A I M D E
M O N O S A T R E N C H E R
I N F A N T R Y M D P K E S
H O T Z E N R E A A O S L T
P M W I D E N Z T R S T L I
A L L I E S U O A J T E I C
R A O S R U N E H I C A V K
G I V E R E T C A N A N E N
E S P E C I A L R O R Y D O
L O U T E N O L I N D A U S
E C I T S I M R A O Z Y A U
T O E U N D E R U P O N V N
T R O P O H S I B Y L L I B

FLANDERS

WAR

VAUDEVILLE

PUTTEES

ZEPPELIN

TRENCH

TELEGRAPH

PROPAGANDA

ARMISTICE

DAZZLE SHIP

POPPY

INFANTRY

ALLIES

MATA HARI

SAPPER

CENOTAPH

RED ENSIGN

SWAGGER STICK

POSTCARD

BILLY BISHOP



IN FLANDERS FIELDS

You'll find twenty words about World War I in this hidden-word puzzle.
Look for backwards, forwards, horizontal and diagonal spellings.

P E S T A M I N E T O N I A E F V E T O
V C M A P N O I T A T S G N I S S E R D
I I H C I L G V C F I S J A Z P Q A E U
C T H R G O O V E R T H E T O P I C N C
T S U O L F N E D E T K B P S O E D C K
O I P Q C N B A S S E R P Y R T L N H B
R M A E B Y D J N E B I R T U G P A E O
Y R E L L I T R A A E R I B N R N L A A
B A F L A N D E R S G H Y I E E X S R R
O Y U O R P A T E C V N T C R A I N C D
N B E U K I P C T B A T E U V T P A C S
D E R O S O E V E C A I U L N W R M M T
S H Y E T P R C V H H K L E Z A P O E R
E R I F N O B S C R E M E M B R A N C E

FLANDERS	REMEMBRANCE	DRESSING STATION	BONFIRE
TRENCH	VICTORY BONDS	POPPIES	CHATTING
GREAT WAR	GO OVER THE TOP	YPRES	ESTAMINET
BULLY BEEF	NO MAN'S LAND	LARKS	MCCRAE
DUCKBOARDS	ARTILLERY	VETERANS	ARMISTICE