

Veterans Day Additional Resources

Looking for more resources to spark student curiosity, creativity, and critical thinking as you celebrate Veterans Day? These additional books, articles, and videos can expand your lessons and help students better understand the men and women serving in uniform. Hear moving testimony from former veterans, or take a closer look at the different branches of the U.S. Military and their unique responsibilities. Explore fun read-alouds or learn about other students working to make a positive difference. Get your class thinking about how they can support veterans—both those in their community and around the world!

**Important Note: Some of the StoryCorps videos may be too emotional for young students. It's advised that teachers watch them first to determine if they are suitable for their grade.*

[Grades K-2](#)

[Grades 3-5](#)

[Grades 6-8](#)

Grades K-2

Videos

[PBS Learning Media | Veterans Day | PBS KIDS](#)

November 11th is Veterans Day! Do you know any veterans? How do you honor them? This quick video from PBS gives a basic overview of Veterans Day and how it has evolved over the years. It's a perfect way to summarize the lesson for younger students.

Books

[**The Wall**](#) by Eve Bunting & Ronald Himler (AD520L)

A young boy and his father visit the Vietnam Veterans Memorial and reflect on how the war has impacted their lives as well as the lives of others.

[**Hero Mom**](#) by Melinda Hardin & Bryan Langdo (AD550L)

The moms in this book are superheroes. They may not leap over tall buildings, and they may not have superhuman speed. But these moms construct buildings, fly planes, and make tanks roll. They do all kinds of things to help create a safer world. These superheroes are moms. Military moms. Hero moms.

Veterans Day Additional Resources

[Hero Dad](#) by Melinda Hardin & Bryan Langdo (AD550L)

Some superheroes wear rocket-propelled boots, drive super-powered cars, and have X-ray vision. But other superheroes wear army boots, drive tanks, and go away for long trips to make the world a safer place. *Hero Dad* makes a difficult and tender subject more accessible to children with parents serving far from home.

[Twenty-One Steps: Guarding the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier](#) by Jeff Gottesfeld & Matt Tavares (Grades 2-5)

Keeping vigil at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National Cemetery, are the sentinel guards, whose every step, every turn, honors and remembers America's fallen. They protect fellow soldiers who have paid the ultimate sacrifice, making sure they are never alone. With every step, the Tomb Guards pay homage to America's fallen.

Grades 3-5

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[Veterans Day by the Numbers | History](#)

Learn the facts and figures behind the many contributions of America's armed forces throughout the country's history. Students will also discover how the work of veterans goes far beyond the battlefield by providing civilian assistance both at home and abroad.

Books

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[The Poppy Lady: Moina Belle Michael and Her Tribute to Veterans](#) by Barbara E. Walsh & Layne Johnson (850L)

When American soldiers entered World War I, Moina Belle Michael, a schoolteacher from Georgia, knew she had to act. Some of the soldiers were her students and friends. Almost single-handedly, Moina worked to establish the red poppy as the symbol to honor and remember soldiers.

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Articles

[Poetry Foundation | In Flanders Fields](#)

Introduce your students to this iconic poem by Canadian physician Lieutenant-Colonel John McCrae. He was inspired to write it in 1915, after presiding over the funeral of a friend and fellow soldier. Use its words to introduce your students to the powerful themes of war and loss.

[Arlington National Cemetery](#)

Visit the main website for Arlington National Cemetery and learn more about the history and legacy of this distinguished landmark. Arlington Cemetery's rolling hills mark the final resting place for more than 14,000 veterans, including those who fought in the Civil War.

Veterans Day Additional Resources

[U.S. Department of Defense](#)

Hear about Veterans from the Department of Defense itself. This website contains a detailed overview of each branch of the armed forces as well as videos, transcripts, and speeches by the men and women who serve in uniform. Visitors can also discover the biggest issues facing veterans today and how civilians can get involved.

Grades 6–8

Videos

[Veterans Day by the Numbers | History](#)

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[History of the Holidays: History of Veterans Day | History](#)

This video from the History Channel gives a longer and more detailed look at the history of Veterans Day. Students will discover how the holiday began and how it has influenced both United States and international culture over the years. They will also learn about the different public leaders who shaped Veterans Day into what it is today.

[Tom's War | #VeteransVoices from StoryCorps](#)

Army medic Tom Geerdes discusses his service during the Vietnam War and the profound effect it had on his life upon his return home as a veteran.

[The Last Viewing | #VeteransVoices from StoryCorps](#)

Allen Hoe was a combat medic in Vietnam. His oldest son, Nainoa K. Hoe, served as a first lieutenant infantry officer with the Army's 3rd Battalion in Iraq. In January 2005, while leading his men through Mosul, Iraq, Nainoa was killed by sniper fire. He was 27. On Memorial Day in 2005, Allen traveled from Hawaii to Washington, D.C. for an event honoring Army nurses returning home from the war. He remembers meeting the Army nurse who had cared for his son after he had been shot and killed during combat in Mosul, Iraq.

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