



Explore it

Remembrance Additional Ideas

Idea 1

Say:

This week we will remember / have remembered the men and women who bravely stand up to evil and protect us in the armed forces. The video we are about to watch tells their story in a creative way but reminds us of their bravery.

Once the video has finished, read the prayer with the group to bring the session to a close.

A Remembrance Day-inspired Strictly Pros routine by BBC Strictly Come Dancing (3:29)

Pray:

Heavenly Father, we ask that you would be with the soldiers who risk everything to stand up to evil, and bravely do the right thing.

We pray for their families who wait at home filled with worry.

Be with all the families who have lost someone important to them.

Protect those who are caught up in the horrors of war.

When I am afraid of the things I see around me, help me to remember the words of our memory verse.

Help me to focus on you and your faithfulness and, just like Esther, give me the courage to stand up and do the right thing.

Amen.

Idea 2

Say:

Jesus asked the disciples to say, 'Peace be with you.' Throughout all his teaching Jesus showed us how to feel peaceful inside. We are going to have a time of peace and quiet to think about everything Jesus has taught us today.

Prayer

The link for the song 'Deep Peace' is provided below and you may want to give the children a quiet space to rest and pray.

Alternatively, you could use this song for a time of remembrance. You may want to give the children the opportunity to remember the sacrifice of others in bringing about peace to the world or discuss how Jesus encourages us to be peacemakers.

Listen

'Deep Peace' by Libera uploaded by Warner Classics (3:39)

When the song has finished, finish with a prayer.



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Idea 3

Say:

Remembrance Sunday is when we remember the brave deeds of those who have fought in world wars and other conflicts. Many of the people we remember on this day showed humility by valuing the lives of others more than their own. Explore this by doing one of the following activities:

PoppyCraft

People wear poppies to remember those who have lost their lives because of wars and conflict. Create your own Poppy Sun Catcher to display in your window.

Poppy Sun Catcher Craft for Remembrance Sunday by Heritage Doncaster

Edible Poppies

Create some edible poppies.

Fruit poppies: surround a black grape with slices from a large strawberry.

Vegetable poppies: surround a black olive with slices of tomatoes.

Sweet poppies: surround a black Liquorice Allsort with royal icing dyed red.

Or come up with your own ideas!

Share them with your friends or family and tell them why poppies are used for remembrance in western countries.

(Adapted from Messychurch.org.uk)

Poppy Cakes

Bake some fairy cakes and decorate them for Remembrance Day. You can make an icing poppy to put on a fairy cake by taking four marble-sized balls of red icing and flattening them into circles. Use a dab of water on your finger to stick them to the cake like flower petals.

Now take four very tiny pieces of black icing and roll them into tiny balls – about the size of a peppercorn. Use a dab of water on your finger to stick them in the middle of the flower petals on the cake.

The Last Post

Decorate an A4 piece of paper. Then, roll the paper into a cone shape with a very small opening at one end. Seal with Sellotape. Use the cones to ‘toot’ through and play The Last Post – the tune usually played at the end of the two minutes’ silence.

Investigate

Investigate different organisations that work for peace in war-torn countries, or charities that support children and families in areas of conflict. Is there anything you can do to support this work?

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Paper Chains

Create a paper chain of crosses by folding a length of paper into a fan or an 'accordion'. Draw a cross on the top piece, making sure that the left and right arms of the cross touch the folds at the sides. Now cut out the cross shape, but remember not to cut along the folds on the left and right edges. The crosses should be linked when the paper is unfolded.

You can make as many crosses as you like depending on the number of folds you make. Now make poppies of the appropriate size cut from red paper to decorate the centres of the crosses.

Talk together about how Jesus died on a cross, which for Christians means, among other things, that God understands and shares in the suffering of the world, including all the pain and bereavement that comes through war.

Create

Using some cheap artist's canvasses, design and decorate your own memo boards to put up at home. Cover one with patterned paper and then criss-cross it with colourful ribbon which will provide a net into which you can put and store important photos, souvenirs or notes. Fix string to the back with glue or tape or something stronger to make it possible to hang the board. Talk together about your most important memories.

(Adapted from Messychurch.org.uk)

Bake

Can you find a wartime recipe to try out? Or ask an older relative / church member if they remember eating anything special during the war (if they're old enough!).

Pray

Find out what countries are experiencing conflict and war right now. Pray together for peace in those places by putting stickers representing peace on a world map. As you put the stickers on, pray: 'Father God, may there be peace in ...' There is no shortage of war zones to pray for. You could choose one place to continue to pray for throughout the week.