

# What do I need?

Red tissue paper

Black card

Scissors

Glue stick

Green pipe cleaners



# What do I do?

Read page 2 to learn about the symbology of the poppy and why British people pin poppies to their clothes in November.

Cut fifteen 10cm circles from your red tissue paper and three 4cm circles from your black card.

Take five of your red circles and layer them on top of each other. Carefully pierce a hole through the centre of the circles with one end of a pipe cleaner.

Now, push the pipe cleaner through the centre of one of your black circles so that it sits on top of the red ones.

Bend the end of the pipe cleaner over to hold the circles in place. You can use a small amount of glue to make sure it stays in place if you need to.

Gently scrunch the tissue paper circles and your black card circle so that they look like the ruffled petals of a really poppy.

Repeat the process to make two more poppies. Once you've finished you can display them in a plant pot or in the ground to commemorate Remembrance Day.



# Remembrance Day and the Flanders Poppy

## What is Remembrance Day?

Remembrance Day, or Armistice Day, takes place each year in Britain on November 11th to mark the end of the First World War in 1918 at 11am on the 11th day of the 11th month. A 2-minute silence is held at 11 am to commemorate all who fought and died for their country in the First World War and all wars that have taken place since.

The custom began in 1919 when King George V asked the British public to observe a silence in remembrance. It has taken place every year since then.

The second Sunday in November is also known as Remembrance Sunday - a day when many churches across Britain hold special services dedicated to the remembrance of all the soldiers who lost their lives.



## Why is the Flanders poppy emblematic?

In the lead up to Remembrance Day many people pin red poppies to their clothes to commemorate the sacrifice of those who died in battle. But why has the poppy become a symbol of remembrance?

At the start of the First World War fields and forests in northern France and Flanders (northern Belgium) were torn up to become battlefields.

When spring arrived a few months later the battlefields were carpeted in bright red poppies. The war created the perfect environment for them to grow - disturbing the soil brought poppy seeds to the surface where they could germinate and grow, while nitrogen from explosions provided added fertiliser for them to thrive! Known as the Flanders poppy ever since, they are seen both as a symbol of remembrance and as a sign of hope in bleak and desperate times.

In 1921, the Royal British Legion was founded to help ex-Servicemen from the First World War. It also set up the Poppy Appeal which, through its poppy sales, has raised hundreds of thousands of pounds to help the charity support many ex-Servicemen and women.

