



LESSON PLAN

WHO'S BURIED AT THE TOMB OF THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER?

Elementary School (4-6)

OVERVIEW:

Working in small groups, students use primary sources to explore who is buried at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery and why they are buried there. Students will use the new information to reflect on what the Tomb means to other Americans and to them.

It is recommended that this lesson be taught in conjunction with Memorial Day, Veterans Day, or an in-person or virtual visit to Arlington National Cemetery and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Materials include information on the history of the Tomb, Memorial Day and Veterans Day.

Resources include PowerPoints and reflection worksheets. Resources are flexible and can be used in a variety of ways.

Estimated time: 1 class period, 45-60 minutes total

STANDARDS:

Social studies standards vary by state. This lesson can be used to teach the following standards and similar wording may be found in your state standards.

National Council for the Social Studies Standards

- NCSS.D2.Civ.8.3-5: Identify core civic virtues and democratic principles that guide government, society, and communities.
- NCSS.D2.Civ.10.3-5: Identify the beliefs, experiences, perspectives, and values that underlie their own and others' points of view about civic issues.

Example state social studies standards

- CA: 3.4.3: Know the histories of important local and national landmarks, symbols, and essential documents that create a sense of community among citizens and exemplify cherished ideals (e.g., the U.S. flag, the bald eagle, the Statue of Liberty, the U.S. Constitution, the Declaration of Independence, the U.S. Capitol).
- TX: 5.17 Citizenship. The student understands important symbols, customs, celebrations, and landmarks that represent American beliefs and principles and contribute to our national identity. The student is expected to:
 - A. explain various patriotic symbols, including Uncle Sam, and political symbols such as the donkey and elephant;
 - D. describe the origins and significance of national celebrations such as Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Constitution Day, Columbus Day, and Veterans Day; and
 - E. explain the significance of important landmarks, including the White House, the Statue of Liberty, and Mount Rushmore.



LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

- Students will explain the history of Memorial Day or Veterans Day.
- Students will explain why the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier was built.
- Students will identify:
 - the meaning of Memorial Day or Veterans Day.
 - who is buried at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.
 - why additional people were buried at the Tomb.

RESOURCES NEEDED:

- Memorial Day Elementary School PowerPoint (optional)
 - Memorial Day PPT Teacher Guide
- Veterans Day Elementary School PowerPoint (optional)
 - Veterans Day PPT Teacher Guide
- Tomb of the Unknown Soldier PowerPoint
- Tomb Mystery Handout (2-sided, 1 copy per student)
- World War I Unknown Tomb Clues (1 copy per group)
- World War II Unknown Tomb Clues (1 or 2 copies, depending on how number of groups)
- Korean War Unknown Tomb Clues (1 or 2 copies, depending on how number of groups)
- Vietnam War Unknown Tomb Clues (1 or 2 copies, depending on how number of groups)

LESSON ACTIVITIES:

* **Language Note:** *In historic materials (Clues), “Tomb” may refer to the sarcophagus as well as the crypts. In all other student materials, “Tomb” refers to the sarcophagus where the World War I Unknown is buried, and “Crypt” refers to the crypts that were built for each subsequent Unknown.*

- Introduction: 5-15 minutes
 - Depending on your purpose for this lesson, you may begin by telling students about their upcoming trip to Arlington National Cemetery, discussing Memorial Day or discussing Veterans Day.
 - If discussing Memorial Day, see Memorial Day PowerPoint and Teacher Guide.
 - If discussing Veterans Day, see Veterans Day PowerPoint and Teacher Guide.
- Activity Part 1: 15-25 minutes
 - Display Tomb of the Unknown Soldier PowerPoint Slide 1: Who’s Buried at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier?
 - When we talked about [Veterans or Memorial Day], we saw a picture of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Today we’re working to solve a mystery:
 - Who’s buried at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier?
 - What other questions do you think we’ll have about the Tomb?
 - Display PowerPoint Slide 2: Questions to Answer
 - Some of the questions that you’ll be answering today include:



- Who’s buried at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier?
 - Why is that person “Unknown”?
 - Why is that person buried there?
 - When was he buried at the Tomb?
 - Where was he before coming to the Tomb?
 - We keep using the pronoun “he” for the Unknown. Think about why we might be doing that. We’ll discuss it later in the lesson.
 - **Note:** *As you will see later, there are actually multiple individuals buried at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. At this point, focus on the World War I Unknown Soldier and allow students to discover the additional unknown soldiers as the lesson progresses.*
 - Display PowerPoint Slide 3: Unravelling the Mystery
 - To answer these questions, we have some clues. Some of these clues are pictures, and some of them are things that people said or that were written in newspapers. Remember to pay attention to where the clue comes from and if it’s a good source of information. You’ll be working in groups to go through each clue and find the answers to the questions we just talked about.
 - Pass out Tomb Mystery Worksheet and put students into groups. You will want either 3 or 6 groups for the second part of the lesson.
 - On your worksheet, keep track of the clues you used to help you answer the question. Make sure that you fill this part out so you can refer to the clue if someone gets a different answer to the question than you do. Some questions use more than one clue.
 - Use World War I Unknown Clues: each group gets one set of clues.
 - Working in small groups, students have 10-15 minutes to review the clues and answer the questions on the front of the worksheet.
- Discussion: 5-10 minutes
 - Display PowerPoint Slide 4: Class Discussion
 - As a class, review the answers to the questions on the worksheets and which clues students used to answer each question. Students may disagree with the conclusions that others made about the meaning of the Tomb or why it was built.
 - While the clues do not explicitly state this, your class discussion should lead students to understand that the Tomb was built after World War I because it was important to people to give their loved ones a proper burial and to be able to visit their grave. With so many soldiers who remained unidentified or buried in Europe, the Tomb gave them a place in the U.S. to mourn—to remember the person who died and to feel sad. (This can especially be seen in Clue #3, when the “hearts of every mother who lost her boy were carried to the final resting place,” or, for religious mourners, in the Tomb inscription in Image 1 where the Unknown is “known but to God.”)
 - This is also a good time to discuss with students why the pronoun “he” is typically used for the soldier. While American women have many opportunities to serve in the military today, that hasn’t always been the case. When the Tomb was created (1921), women’s roles in the military



were limited and they were not allowed to serve in combat. The World War I Unknown came from a battlefield grave and would have been a man.

- Activity Part 2: 15-25 minutes
 - Display PowerPoint Slide 5: What Has Changed?
 - Looking at images of a place over time can often tell us a lot about it. The picture on the right shows a wreath-laying ceremony at the Tomb in 1933. The one on the right shows a wreath-laying ceremony in 2019. What differences do you notice between the two images?
 - The important difference for students to realize is that the 2019 image shows three white slabs in front of the Tomb. Ask students what they think the slabs might be and why they might be there.
 - We just discussed the unidentified soldier from World War I who's buried at the Tomb. What's written on the slabs? Could anyone else be buried there?
 - Display PowerPoint Slide 6: Why Are There Three Marble Slabs?
 - Working in the same groups, you'll now get a second set of clues. Each group will be learning more about a different marble slab and the history and meaning behind it.
 - Either pass out second page or have students turn paper over if worksheet was printed double-sided.
 - Working in small groups, students have 10-15 minutes to review their clues and answer the questions on the worksheet.
 - Korean War Unknown Clues go to the group studying the crypt on the left.
 - World War II Unknown Clues go to the group studying the crypt on the right.
 - Vietnam War Unknown Clues go to the group studying the crypt in the middle.
- Discussion & Reflection: 10-15 minutes
 - Display PowerPoint Slide 7: Right Crypt
 - Discuss what this group found out about the World War II Unknown.
 - Display PowerPoint Slide 8: Left Crypt
 - Discuss what this group found out about the Korean War Unknown.
 - Display PowerPoint Slide 9: Center Crypt
 - Discuss what this group found out about the Vietnam War Unknown.
 - Reflection: Ask any or all of the following questions.
 - How has the Tomb changed over the years?
 - The Tomb has grown in size and meaning: it started with one unknown soldier from one conflict. After three wars, the number of unknowns increased. One unknown was removed and identified, and due to advances in DNA identification technology, there probably won't be any more unknown soldiers. Americans' views of the Tomb have also changed over time. Originally, the Tomb represented one conflict, World



War I, but now it represents all those who have died in all of the United States' military conflicts.

- Why has the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier been so important to Americans over time?
 - Using their notes, students should be able to identify the Tomb as a place for national and individual mourning. It has been a place to comfort those who had no other place to visit a friend or family member who died in war. The Unknowns represent every person who fought and died in the war in which they fought. The Unknowns have also come to represent those who have died in other conflicts. Burial of an Unknown from each U.S. war, from World War I through the Vietnam War, meant that the veterans of those wars were equally worthy of honor.
 - How do visitors show respect at the Tomb?
 - If planning a trip to Arlington National Cemetery, this is a great opportunity to discuss the behavior expectations both at the cemetery and at the Tomb.
 - For more information on behavior at the Tomb see <https://www.arlingtoncemetery.mil/Visit/Visitor-Etiquette>
 - What does the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier mean to you?
- Additional Optional slides:
 - If you choose to use these, it is recommended that you move them ahead of the Reflection Questions and end the lesson with those questions.
 - Slide 11 (optional): Many foreign leaders visit the Tomb and lay a wreath when they make a trip to Washington, D.C. Why do leaders from other countries want to honor the American Unknowns?
 - Because the Unknowns represent all Americans who have died in military conflicts, the Tomb allows allied countries to show respect and appreciation for Americans who have fought or currently fight with their own soldiers.
 - Slide 12 (optional): This timeline of the Tomb provides a visual guide to when and how the Tomb has changed over the years.



MEMORIAL DAY AND VETERANS DAY LESSONS

Follow the instructions below if you want to focus **only** on Memorial Day or Veterans Day and not the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

RESOURCES NEEDED:

- Memorial Day PowerPoint
- Memorial Day PPT Teacher Guide
- Memorial Day Worksheet (1 worksheet per student)

OR

- Veterans Day Elementary School PowerPoint
- Veterans Day PPT Teacher Guide
- Veterans Day Worksheet_Elementary School (1 worksheet per student)

LESSON ACTIVITIES:

- Introduction: 5 minutes
 - Slide 1: Discuss the guiding question:
 - Memorial Day: Why is the last Monday in May a holiday?
 - Veterans Day: Who are we honoring in November?
- Activity: 15-20 minutes
 - Use the PPT Teacher Guide to go through the PowerPoint and discuss information about the holiday, who we are honoring, and why it is a holiday.
 - As you go through the PowerPoint, give students time to fill in their worksheets.
 - The headings in the worksheet do not directly match the PowerPoint headlines. Use this guide:
 - **Memorial Day:**
 - “History”: Slides 2 and 3
 - “Meaning”: Slides 4-6, 8
 - “Honoring”: Slide 4
 - “Tomb of the Unknown Soldier”: Slide 9
 - “What does Memorial Day mean to me?” is a personal reflection question, but can be related to Slide 10
 - **Veterans Day:**
 - “History”: Slides 2 and 7
 - “Meaning”: Slides 4-6
 - “Honoring”: Slides 3-4
 - “Tomb of the Unknown Soldier”: Slides 8-9
 - “What does Veterans Day mean to me?” is a personal reflection question, but can be related to Slide 11.



- Reflection & Conclusion: 5 minutes
 - After students have had a chance to answer the reflection question (What does Memorial Day/Veterans Day mean to me?), students can volunteer to share answers with the whole class or share with a partner or small group.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION FOR TEACHERS

Additional information about Memorial Day or Veterans Day can be found in the Teacher PowerPoint Guides for each holiday.

For most of human history, one consequence of warfare has been many unidentified dead. Sometimes this was due to the damage inflicted on bodies. Sometimes it was due to the need to quickly bury the dead and mark gravesites. In the United States before World War I (1914-1918), unidentified bodies were often buried in mass graves. One example is the Tomb of the Civil War Unknowns at Arlington (which has the remains of 2,111 soldiers). Similar memorials can be found on battlefields or at other national cemeteries. Estimates vary, but around half of the Civil War dead were never identified.

Beginning with the Spanish-American War (1898), the U.S. military's policy was to repatriate (return to the United States) the bodies of service members who died abroad. New Army regulations required that soldiers be buried in temporary graves. These graves had to be near where they died in combat, and they had to have identifying information. After the war ended, these remains would be repatriated to the United States. The Army's Quartermaster Corps oversaw burials and repatriation of bodies. The department also employed a burial unit. Identification rates went up to 87%. By the start of World War I, U.S. service members received aluminum identification discs (the precursor to 'dog tags') to aid identification. The War Department also created a new unit, the Graves Registration Service, to oversee burials.

During and after World War I, however, Americans debated whether bodies should be repatriated. With more than 100,000 U.S. casualties (compared to fewer than 3,000 in the Spanish-American War), repatriation would be harder. Additionally, America's allies France and Great Britain discouraged repatriation. They had suffered significantly higher casualties and buried their dead in cemeteries near the battlefields. Each also chose to repatriate and bury one unknown soldier on Armistice Day, November 11, 1920. The British buried their Unknown in Westminster Abbey. The French buried their Unknown at the base of the Arc de Triomphe. These unknowns stood in for the many British and French service members whose remains would not be repatriated. The American policy, by contrast, allowed families a choice. Families could request repatriation to anywhere in the U.S. They could also choose to bury their dead in American military cemeteries in Europe. With either choice, there was no cost to the families. Some Americans were concerned that this policy would lead to the repatriation of all identified American casualties, leaving only the unknowns buried abroad.¹

¹ "To remove the known dead would be unjust discrimination against the many unknown dead, who made the supreme sacrifice and cannot be honored by name," said Elizabeth Robinson, whose son was killed and buried in France. "If the



In December 1920, New York Congressman Hamilton Fish Jr. proposed legislation that provided for the interment of one unknown American soldier at a special tomb to be built in Arlington National Cemetery. The purpose of the legislation, Fish said, was “to bring home the body of an unknown American warrior who in himself represents no section, creed, or race in the late war and who typifies, moreover, the soul of America and the supreme sacrifice of her heroic dead.”

In October 1921, four bodies of unidentified American military personnel were exhumed from different American military cemeteries in France. They were transported to Châlons-sur-Marnes, France, where U.S. Army Sgt. Edward F. Younger selected one of the four caskets. That casket was then transported to Washington, D.C. aboard the USS Olympia. After arriving in Washington, D.C., the Unknown lay in state at the Capitol Rotunda for two days as around 90,000 visitors paid their respects. On November 11, 1921, a state funeral ceremony was held at Arlington National Cemetery, and the Unknown was interred at the Tomb. Nationwide, Americans observed two minutes of silence at the beginning of the ceremony. President Warren G. Harding officiated the ceremony and placed the Medal of Honor and the Distinguished Service Cross on the casket. These are the nation’s highest military honors. Originally, the Tomb consisted of a simple marble slab. The decorated sarcophagus (stone coffin) was added in 1932.

Over the years, thousands of visitors have come to Arlington to visit the Tomb and to pay their respects to the Unknown and the other military personnel that he represents. The cemetery established a guard in 1926, due to some disrespectful behavior at the Tomb. In 1937, the Army began a 24-hour guard of the Tomb. In 1948, the 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment, “The Old Guard,” took over guard duties that continue today with the ceremonial changing of the guard.

After World War II (1939-1945), many Americans advocated interring and honoring an Unknown from that conflict. However, the Korean War (1950-1953) delayed those plans until 1958. Following a selection process and ceremony, an Unknown from each of those conflicts was interred under grave markers that lie to the west of the Tomb.

In 1984, a fourth Unknown was selected and buried in the Tomb to honor those who had died during the Vietnam War (1958-1975). However, advances in technology meant that there were few truly unidentifiable remains during that conflict. In 1998, the remains of the Vietnam War Unknown were exhumed for mitochondrial DNA testing. The remains were identified as Air Force 1st Lt. Michael Blassie. Following his family’s wishes, Blassie was reinterred at Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery in St. Louis, Missouri. In 1999, this crypt was rededicated to honor all missing U.S. service members from the Vietnam War. It remains empty.

Advances in science and technology make it highly unlikely that there will ever be another unidentified American service member.

unknown dead alone were left, they would be forgotten.” <https://www.nytimes.com/1920/05/31/archives/pleads-for-unknown-dead-mrs-robinson-urges-mothers-here-to-leave.html>



LESSON EXTENSIONS:

- Share examples of student work with Arlington National Cemetery by posting pictures on Twitter with the hashtag #TUSatANC. Remember to follow your school/district's student privacy and social media policies.
- In addition to transporting the Unknown from France, the USS Olympia was Admiral George Dewey's flagship during the Battle of Manila Bay during the Spanish-American War (1898). Today, the ship is docked in the Delaware River at the Independence Seaport Museum in Philadelphia. Learn more about it here: <https://phillyseaport.org/olympia>.
- Writing Activity: Have students write a news article about the history of the Tomb, its meanings, and its importance to Americans over the years.
- Wreath-Laying Ceremony: You can learn more about participation in wreath-laying ceremonies here: <https://www.arlingtoncemetery.mil/Visit/Events-and-Ceremonies/Request-a-Ceremony>.
- Veterans Day Resources: The Veterans Administration (VA) provides additional resources for schools and teachers: <https://www.va.gov/opa/vetsday/>.

PLANNING A VISIT TO ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY?

In addition to the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, Arlington has other memorials and gravesites of unidentified military service members. These include the Tomb of the Civil War Unknowns and gravesites for unidentified service members from the War of 1812, the Civil War and the Spanish-American War. If you are interested in more information and discussion questions to use with your class during a visit to the cemetery, a detailed walking tour is available on the ANC website.

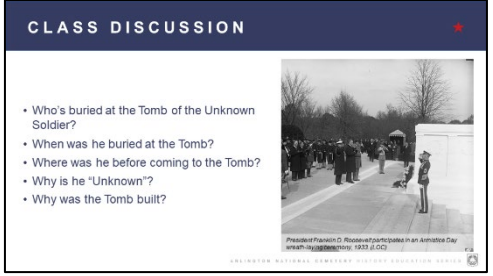





Who's Buried at the Tomb PowerPoint Teacher Guide:




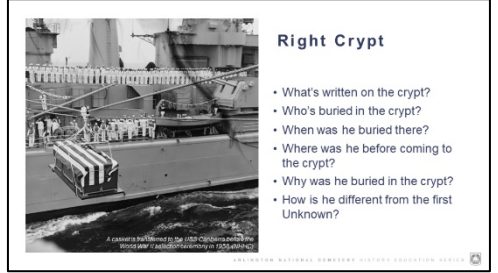

*Teacher notes for each slide are found in the Lesson Plan

Slide	Text	Screenshot
1	<p>Who's Buried in the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier? A History Mystery</p>	
	<p>Caption: <i>Members of all five branches of the armed forces participate in a Memorial Day wreath-laying at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery, 2018. (ANC/Elizabeth Fraser)</i></p>	
Slide	Text	Screenshot
2	<p>Questions to Answer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who's buried in the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier? • Why is that person "Unknown"? • Why is he buried there? • When was he buried in the Tomb? • Where was he before coming to the Tomb? 	
	<p>Caption: <i>The Tomb early in the morning. (ANC/Elizabeth Frasier, 2018)</i></p>	
Slide	Text	Screenshot
3	<p>Unravelling the Mystery</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clues are pictures or quotes • Where did the clue come from? • Work in groups • Keep track of the clues you use 	



Slide	Text	Screenshot
4	<p>Class Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who's buried in the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier? • When was he buried in the Tomb? • Where was he before coming to the Tomb? • Why is he "Unknown"? • Why was the Tomb built? <p>Caption: <i>President Franklin D. Roosevelt participates in an Armistice Day wreath-laying ceremony, 1933. (LOC)</i></p>	 
5	<p>What Has Changed?</p> <p><i>Vice President Mike Pence participates in a Memorial Day wreath-laying ceremony, 2019. (ANC/Elizabeth Fraser)</i></p>	 

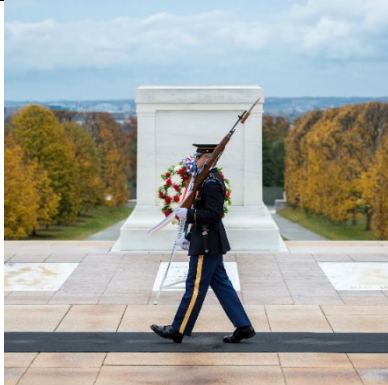






	<p>President Franklin D. Roosevelt participates in an Armistice Day wreath-laying ceremony in 1933. (LOC)</p>	
Slide	Text	Screenshot
6	<p>Why are There 3 Marble Blocks?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Second set of clues • Work in the same groups 	
	<p>Caption: <i>The crypts to the west of the Tomb. (ANC)</i></p>	
Slide	Text	Screenshot
7	<p>Right Crypt</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What's written on the crypt? • Who's buried in the crypt? • When was he buried there? • Where was he before coming to the crypt? • Why was he buried in the crypt? • How is he different from the first Unknown? 	
	<p>Caption: <i>A casket is transferred to the USS Canberra before the World War II selection ceremony in 1958. (NHHC)</i></p>	



Slide	Text	Screenshot
8	<p>Left Crypt</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What's written on the crypt? • Who's buried in the crypt? • When was he buried there? • Where was he before coming to the crypt? • Why was he buried in the crypt? • How is he different from the first Unknown? 	
	<p>Caption: <i>Flag-draped caskets of unidentified dead lie at Hickam Air Force Base in Hawaii. (DOD, 1958)</i></p>	
9	<p>Center Crypt</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What's written on the crypt? • Who's buried in the crypt? • When was he buried there? • Where was he before coming to the crypt? • Why was he buried in the crypt? • How is he different from the first Unknown? 	
	<p>Caption: <i>An honor guard carries the casket of Vietnam War Unknown from the USS Brewton to a hearse in May 1984. (NARA)</i></p>	
10	<p>Reflection</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How has the Tomb changed over the years? • Why has the Tomb been so important to Americans? • How do visitors show respect at the Tomb? • What does the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier mean to you? 	



	<p>Caption: <i>A Tomb guard walks the mat while guarding the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in 2018. (LOC/Elizabeth Fraser)</i></p>	
Slide	Text	Screenshot
11	<p>Foreign Visitors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Over the years, many foreign leaders have visited the Tomb and laid a wreath when visiting Washington, D.C. Why do leaders from other countries want to honor the American Unknown Soldiers? 	
	<p>Caption: <i>King George VI of Great Britain visits the Tomb, 1939. (LOC)</i></p>	
	<p>Caption: <i>German minister of defense visits the Tomb in 2018. (ANC)</i></p>	
	<p>Caption: <i>Liberian president visits the Tomb in 1943. (LOC)</i></p>	



	<p>Caption: <i>Indonesian army chief of staff visits the Tomb in 2020. (ANC)</i></p>	
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Slide	Text	Screenshot
12	<p>Tomb of the Unknown Soldier: A Timeline</p> <p>1914-1918: World War I</p> <p>1921: Tomb of the Unknown Soldier dedicated</p> <p>1939-1945: World War II</p> <p>1950-1953: Korean War</p> <p>1958: World War II and Korean War Unknowns interred</p> <p>1958-1975: Vietnam War</p> <p>1984: Vietnam War Unknown interred</p> <p>1998: Vietnam Unknown identified</p>	



Answer Key

Who's Buried in the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier?

When was he buried in the Tomb?

He was buried on November 11, 1921, after World War I.

Clues: #2, 3, 4, and 5

Where was he before coming to the Tomb?

He was originally buried in France, where he died during World War I.

Clues: #6, 8, 9, and 10

Why was the Tomb built?

The Tomb was built to comfort families whose loved ones died in France. They can think that their son, husband or father is the one buried in the Tomb. The Unknown is more than one person: he represents all of the Americans who fought in the war (Clue #5).

Discussion with students should lead them to add the following points: While mothers are mentioned more in the clues, the Tomb was also built for wives, family members, and friends to mourn those who died. The Tomb was built because it was important to people to give their loved ones a proper burial and sometimes to be able to visit their grave. With so many soldiers unidentified or buried in France, they had a place in the U.S. to mourn- to feel sad and remember the person who died (Clue #3).

Clues: #3, 4, and 5

Who's buried in the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier?

One unidentified soldier who served in World War I is buried in the Tomb. He was a typical American, but now represents America and those who died serving the country.

Clues: #1, 2, and 7



Who's Buried in the Crypt? (World War II)

When was he buried there?

He was buried on May 30, 1958, 14 years after World War II.

Clues: C and J

Where was he before coming to the crypt?

He may have died in Europe or in the Pacific during World War II. One from each area of battle was chosen. The unselected Unknown was buried at sea.

Clues: B, D, J

Why was he buried in the crypt?

People thought that an unidentified soldier from World War II should also be buried in the Tomb. There were also soldiers who had been killed in Korea. Americans wanted to honor everyone who fought and died for their country, no matter the conflict. The Unknowns gave their names and lives and should be honored.

***If time allows, discuss the following:** Clue G shows a different tone in the ceremony and people's emotions about it. Why do you think that is? How might people's view of the Tomb and soldiers be affected by three wars so close together?*

Clues: E, F, G, H

Who's buried in the crypt?

One unidentified soldier who served in World War II is buried in the crypt.

****Note:** make sure students realize that while one proposal called for two World War II unknowns (Clue D), the final legislation only provided for one (Clues B and C)*

Clues: C, D

How is he different from the first Unknown?

Answers will vary and may include: He was buried with another Unknown, he fought in World War II, from 18 Unknowns they narrowed it to 2 and one of those was buried at sea, etc.

Clues: A, B, C, G, J



Who's Buried in the Crypt? (Korean War)

When was he buried there?

He was buried on May 30, 1958, 5 years after the Korean War ended.

Clues: A, E

Where was he before coming to the crypt?

He was buried in Hawaii. He died during the Korean War.

Clues: F

Why was he buried in the crypt?

The Tomb had already come to symbolize unknown soldiers from every American war. Some people still wanted an unknown from the Korean War to symbolize those who died in that war.

***If time allows, discuss the following:** Clue G shows a different tone in the ceremony and people's emotions about it. Why do you think that is? How might people's view of the Tomb and soldiers be affected by three wars so close together?*

Clues: D, E, F, G, H

Who's buried in the crypt?

One unidentified soldier who served in the Korean War is buried in the Tomb. He represents all Americans who served in the Korean War.

Clues: C, E, F, G, H

How is he different from the first Unknown?

Answers will vary and may include: He was buried with another Unknown, he fought in the Korean War, he was buried in a crypt, not his own tomb.

Clues: A, B, C, F, G



Who's Buried in the Crypt? (Vietnam War)

When was he buried there?

He was buried on May 28, 1984.

Clues: C

Where was he before coming to the crypt?

He died in Vietnam during the Vietnam War. He was in Hawaii while they tried to identify him.

Clues: B, F

Why was he buried in the crypt?

Vietnam veterans didn't feel that people respected their sacrifice as much as the sacrifices of those who fought in earlier wars. Some people felt that the Unknowns represent all men sent off to war and that an Unknown from Vietnam was needed to represent all of the men who fought and died in that war. Relatives of missing people were worried that a burial in the tomb meant the military would stop looking for lost service members. The Unknown also represented every mother's son and what veterans had lost in the war.

Clues: E, F, G, H

Who's buried in the crypt?

1st Lt. Michael Blassie was the unknown soldier from Vietnam, but they were able to identify him in 1998. Now the crypt is empty and dedicated to all missing Vietnam service members.

Clues: G, H, J, K

How is he different from the first Unknown?

Answers will vary and may include: This crypt is empty; the Unknown was removed and identified; the crypt is now dedicated to all missing servicemen from the Vietnam War; there weren't multiple unknowns to choose from; some people felt like Vietnam veterans weren't respected until there was a Vietnam unknown; there were very few unknowns from the Vietnam War

Clues: A, D, E, F, G, H



Memorial Day PowerPoint Teacher Guide:

- Introduction: 5 minutes
 - Slide 1: Discuss the guiding question
 - Memorial Day: Why is the last Monday in May a holiday?
- Activity: 15-20 minutes
 - Use the PPT Teacher guide to go through the PowerPoint and discuss information about Memorial Day, why it is a holiday and who we are honoring.
 - As you go through the PowerPoint, give students time to fill in their worksheets.
 - The headings in the worksheet do not directly match the PowerPoint headlines. Use this guide:
 - “History”: Slides 2 and 3
 - “Meaning”: Slides 4 – 6, 8
 - “Honoring”: Slide 4
 - “Tomb of the Unknown Soldier”: Slide 9
 - “What does Memorial Day mean to me?” is a personal reflection question, but can be related to Slide 10
- Reflection & Conclusion: 5 minutes
 - After students have had a chance to answer the reflection question (What does Memorial Day mean to me?), students can volunteer to share answers with the whole class or share with a partner or small group.

Slide	Text	Screenshot
1	<p>Memorial Day Why is the last Monday in May a holiday?</p>	
<p>Teacher Guide: Notes for Lecture and Discussion</p> <p>The last Monday in May is a holiday in the United States.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why is it a holiday? • What are we observing or remembering? • Are there any other holidays that are similar to it? • How do you observe Memorial Day? 		
	<p>Caption: <i>Graves at Arlington National Cemetery are decorated with flags for Memorial Day 2019. (ANC/Elizabeth Fraser)</i></p>	



Slide	Text	Screenshot
2	<p>Origins</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Originally called “Decoration Day” • A day to remember loved ones who died in the Civil War (1861-1865) • Graves decorated with flowers or wreaths <p>Teacher Guide: Notes for Lecture and Discussion</p> <p>The Civil War changed life in the United States. Slavery, which Americans had argued about since before the Revolutionary War, finally ended. Millions of formerly enslaved Americans were now free. Hundreds of thousands of Americans were dead. Many Americans now lived near battlefields or cemeteries that held Civil War dead. Most families had lost loved ones: brothers, fathers, uncles, cousins, friends.</p> <p>In communities across the country, people responded by decorating the graves of Civil War dead in the springtime. Decorations usually included flowers.</p> <p>Caption: <i>A group of women and children gathered daisies for Decoration Day on May 30, 1899. (LOC/Frances Benjamin Johnston)</i></p>	<p>ORIGINS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Originally called “Decoration Day” • A day to remember loved ones who died in the Civil War (1861-1865) • Graves decorated with flowers or wreaths <p><i>A group of women and children gathered daisies for Decoration Day on May 30, 1899. (LOC/Frances Benjamin Johnston)</i></p>
3	<p>Observed Nationally</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ceremonies began in many different communities shortly after the Civil War. • First officially observed at Arlington National Cemetery in 1868. • Memorial Day became a national holiday in 1971. <p>Teacher Guide: Notes for Lecture and Discussion</p> <p>In addition to decorating graves, some communities organized parades or ceremonies featuring speeches by local politicians.</p> <p>Memorial Day has many origin stories. A few are given below and, depending on time, can be shared with students.</p>	<p>OBSERVED NATIONALLY</p> <p>Ceremonies began in many different communities after the Civil War.</p> <p>First officially observed at Arlington National Cemetery in 1868.</p> <p>Over 100 years later, Memorial Day became a national holiday in 1971.</p> <p><i>Memorial Day observances at Arlington National Cemetery include the placement of flags or gravelets, formal visiting and decorating headstones, official ceremonies and flower laying. (LOC/Ernest Major, 2013 and 2016)</i></p>



- **1865, Charleston, South Carolina:** During the Civil War, 260 Union soldiers died in a Confederate prison in Charleston, South Carolina. The prison was a converted race track. The dead prisoners were buried in a mass grave behind the grandstands. When Confederate troops left Charleston, freed African Americans dug up the bodies and reburied them in a new cemetery as a sign of respect. On May 1, 1865, a crowd of 10,000 brought flowers and staged a parade at the race track honoring the “Martyrs of the Race Course.”
- **1868, Arlington National Cemetery:** Major General John A. Logan declared May 30 as a nationwide day of remembrance, with a large ceremony held at Arlington National Cemetery. James Garfield (a Civil War veteran who would become president in 1881) spoke at the event at Arlington, and 5,000 people decorated the graves of U.S. service members buried there. Today, every gravesite in the cemetery is decorated before Memorial Day with a small American flag.
- **1966, Waterloo, New York:** In 1966, Congress recognized Waterloo, New York as the birthplace of Memorial Day because of the annual, community-wide observation it has held since 1866.
- *Other cities also claim to be the birthplace of Memorial Day in 1866.*

Caption:

Memorial Day observances at Arlington National Cemetery include the placement of flags at gravesites, families visiting and decorating headstones, official ceremonies, and flower layings. (ANC/Elizabeth Fraser, 2018 and 2019)

(Note: there are 4 images, but only 1 caption)



Slide

Text

Screenshot

4

Meaning

- Honors all those who have made “the ultimate sacrifice” and died while serving their country

MEANING



• Honors all those who have made “the ultimate sacrifice” and died while serving their country

Teacher Guide: Notes for Lecture and Discussion

Memorial Day began as a day for remembering and honoring those who died in the Civil War. Over the years, its meaning expanded to cover all Americans who have died in military conflicts or during military service. While many people today focus on Memorial Day as the unofficial start of summer, its original purpose can still be seen in the decorated national cemeteries and the local commemorations of many communities.

- How does your family or community observe Memorial Day?



- Does your family or community have any Memorial Day traditions?
- Do any of those traditions make you think about the sacrifices people have made for the United States?
- What can you do on Memorial Day to remember the purpose of this holiday?
 - Answer may include putting up a flag, visiting a cemetery, reading about a battle, listening to stories of someone who served in the military, etc.

Caption:

A funeral with U.S. Army Honor Guard is conducted at Arlington National Cemetery. (ANC/Elizabeth Fraser)



Slide	Text	Screenshot
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5 Who Serves?

- Veterans are men and women who have served in the military.
- There are six main U.S. military branches.

Note: There are no captions for the seals of the different Service Branches.



Teacher Guide: Notes for Lecture and Discussion

- Veterans have served “on active duty.” This means they were in the military for their job full time.
- The branches are Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Space Force and Coast Guard.

Questions:

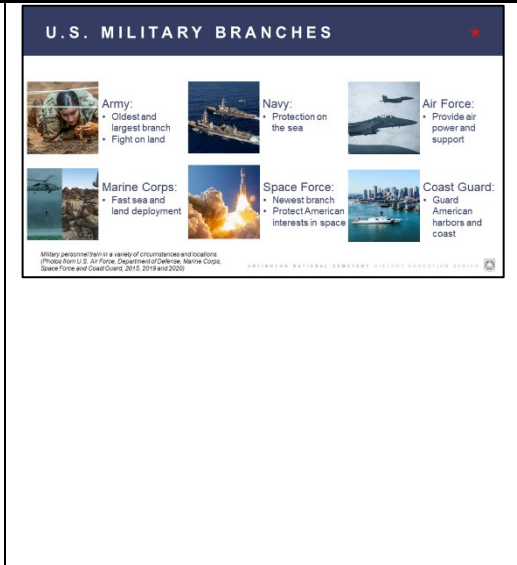
- Who can serve in the military?
 - Anyone who meets age and mental and physical fitness requirements
 - Each branch has specific requirements, which are linked below.
- Have women always been able to serve?
 - No, but women have always supported military service in different ways, including working as cooks, spies, or nurses.
 - Some women even disguised themselves as men in order to fight!
 - Women first officially enlisted in the military during World War I (Navy Yeoman F), and during World War II, more opportunities for women opened up with the WAC, WAVES and other women’s services. Women had also served as nurses.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Eventually, women became part of the regular military and the roles in which they are able to serve have expanded. ● Have racial minorities always been able to serve? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ No. Sometimes they were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ barred from service (for example, African Americans couldn't serve at the beginning of the Civil War) ▪ subject to quotas (the number who could serve was limited), ▪ barred from specific types of jobs (for example, at the start of World War II, African Americans weren't allowed to be pilots) ▪ required to serve in racially segregated units <p>Army Requirements: https://www.goarmy.com/learn/army-requirements-and-qualifications.html Navy Requirements: https://www.navy.com/joining-navy-if-you-havent-served Marine Corps Requirements: https://www.marines.com/becoming-a-marine/overview.html Air Force Requirements: https://www.airforce.com/how-to-join/prepare-for-success/meet-requirements Space Force Requirements: https://www.airforce.com/spaceforce Coast Guard Requirements: https://www.gocoastguard.com/faq/what-are-the-qualifications-to-join-the-coast-guard</p>
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Slide	Text	Screenshot
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6	<p>U.S Military Branches</p> <p>Army:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Largest and oldest branch ● Provide ground forces <p>Navy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Protection on the sea <p>Marine Corps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Fast sea and land deployment <p>Air Force:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Provide air power and support <p>Space:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Newest branch ● Protect American interests in space <p>Coast Guard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Guard American harbors and coast
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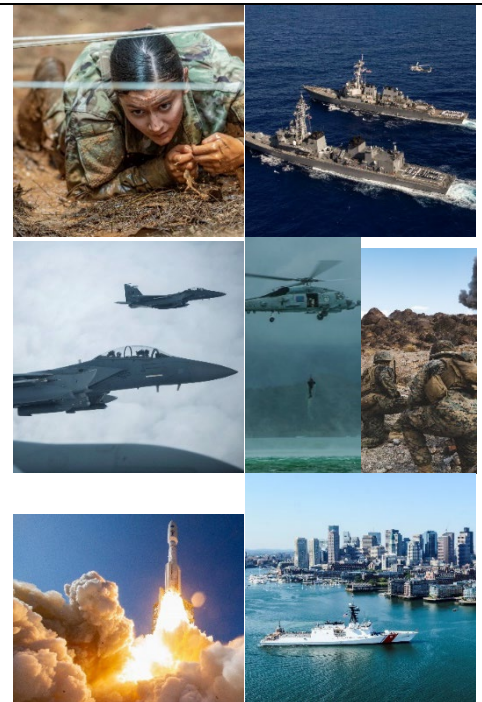
Teacher Guide: Notes for Lecture and Discussion

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● What are the main U.S military branches? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, Space Force and Coast Guard ● How are they different from each other? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Army provides ground forces: soldiers fight on land using armor (such as tanks), artillery, helicopters, etc. It's also the largest and oldest military branch. ○ The Navy operates on oceans and seas with ships of different sizes and submarines under water. Even during peacetime, it operates around the world to maintain and protect U.S. interests. ○ The Marine Corps operates under the Department of the Navy, but is a separate organization. The Marines provide forces that can move quickly on land, sea or in the air. Their specialty is to assault, capture and control beachheads. To be self-sufficient in combat operations, the Marine Corps has its own air power.
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- The Air Force provides support in the air. It uses fighter aircraft, tanker aircraft, bomber aircraft, transport aircraft, helicopters and drones. It can deliver forces anywhere in the world within hours. Before 1947, it was part of the Army.
- The Space Force was formed in 2019 to protect American interests in space and provide space capabilities to the other service branches. It operates under the Department of the Air Force.
- The Coast Guard stays close to the United States and keeps its ports and shorelines safe. It provides maritime safety and environmental support. During peacetime, the Coast Guard is part of the Department of Homeland Security. In a war, it could become part of the Navy.
- How are the branches similar?
 - There's overlap in the technology and transportation that different branches use. For instance, in addition to sailors and ships, the Navy also has pilots that fly planes from large ships. The Army also has airplanes, helicopters, and pilots. The Navy and the Coast Guard both have ships, etc.
 - They work together to keep the United States safe from countries, organizations, and people that might want to harm it.

Caption:
Military personnel train in a variety of circumstances and locations. (Photos from U.S. Air Force, Department of Defense, Marine Corps and Coast Guard, 2015, 2019 and 2020)



Slide	Text	Screenshot
7	<p>National Cemeteries</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Many veterans choose to be buried in a cemetery for military service members • One example is Arlington National Cemetery, outside Washington, D.C. • Is there a national cemetery near you? 	



Teacher Guide: Notes for Lecture and Discussion

The United States government first created national cemeteries during the Civil War. At that time, it was not considered an honor to be buried in a national cemetery. These cemeteries were used when people needed to be buried quickly after a battle, or when families didn't have enough money to pay for the burial or return of a loved one's remains.

This attitude soon changed, partly as a result of the popular Decoration Day/Memorial Day ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery. It is now considered a great honor to be buried in a national cemetery like Arlington National Cemetery. National cemeteries have rules about who can be buried there.

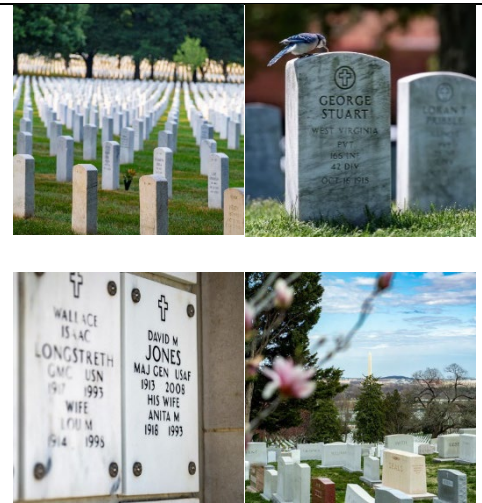
To find a national, state, or tribal veterans cemetery in the U.S.:

<https://www.cem.va.gov/cems/listcem.asp>

ANC is not part of the National Cemetery Administration (NCA) and has different eligibility requirements. More information can be found here: <https://www.arlingtoncemetery.mil/Funerals/Scheduling-a-Funeral/Establishing-Eligibility>

Caption:

Headstones and columbarium niche covers at Arlington National Cemetery. (ANC/Elizabeth Fraser, 2018, 2019, and 2020)



Slide

Text

Screenshot

8

American Cemeteries Abroad

- Some service members died abroad and are buried in special cemeteries in foreign countries




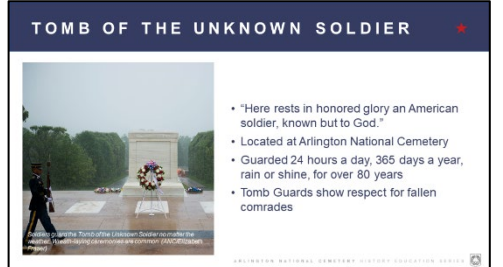


Teacher Guide: Notes for Lecture and Discussion

Most American military cemeteries in other countries are the final resting places of service members who died near those locations during World War I and World War II.

Locations include France, the United Kingdom, the Philippines, Belgium, Italy and Tunisia. These cemeteries are for U.S. military service members.



	<p>A federal agency, the American Battle Monuments Commission, manages these cemeteries, and also maintains American war memorials on foreign soil. For more information or to find instructional materials, see: https://www.abmc.gov/cedeteries-memorials</p>	
	<p>Caption: Service members from World War I buried in Aisne-Marne American Cemetery in France. (Public Domain)</p>	
	<p>Caption: A headstone in the Normandy American Cemetery in France, burial site of service members who died during World War II. (Pixabay, 2013)</p>	
	<p>Caption: Stars of David mark the graves of Jewish service members at Normandy American Cemetery. (Pixabay, 2019)</p>	
Slide	Text	Screenshot
9	<p>Tomb of the Unknown Soldier</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Here rests in honored glory an American soldier, known but to God.” • Located at Arlington National Cemetery • Guarded 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, rain or shine, for over 80 years • Tomb Guards show respect for fallen comrades 	
<p>Teacher Guide: Notes for Lecture and Discussion</p>		
<p>The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier is the final resting place for three American service members: one each from World War I, World War II and the Korean War.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Tomb is inscribed with the words, “Here rests in honored glory an American soldier, known but to God.” No one knows the names of the people buried there. When they died, no one could identify them, so they couldn’t be buried in a grave with their name. This used to happen to a lot of soldiers, but with advances in technology we’re now able to identify the remains of those who die in war. • The Tomb is at Arlington National Cemetery, which is in Virginia right outside of Washington, D.C. • The Tomb is guarded every minute of every day by elite soldiers who volunteered and trained for this special job. • The Tomb guards have to pass a lot of tests to qualify for the honor of serving at the Tomb. They work hard to make sure they can do their job perfectly in order to show respect for the soldiers buried there and others who never came home. 		



Questions:

- How do you know that the Tomb is a special place?
 - It's guarded all of the time. The guards are chosen specially for the job and work hard in order to show respect for the Tomb and other soldiers.
- Why are there wreaths in the picture?
 - Wreaths and flowers are often used to decorate graves. The wreaths at the Tomb are laid by school groups, veterans' groups, foreign dignitaries and even the president of the United States.

Caption:

Soldiers guard the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier no matter the weather. Wreath-laying ceremonies are common. (ANC/Elizabeth Fraser)



Slide	Text	Screenshot
10	<p>National Holidays</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National holidays give people a chance to honor others and to think about what it means to be an American • What other American holidays do you observe or celebrate? 	<p>NATIONAL HOLIDAYS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National holidays give people a chance to honor others and to think about what it means to be an American • What other American holidays do you observe?
<p>Teacher Guide: Notes for Lecture and Discussion</p> <p>Answers may include: Independence Day, Veterans Day, Labor Day, Martin Luther King Jr. Day etc. While there are other state and federal holidays, only a few of them focus on what it means to be an American.</p>		



	<p>Caption: U.S. flags are hung in the Memorial Amphitheater at Arlington National Cemetery before Memorial Day and Veterans Day. (ANC/Elizabeth Fraser)</p>	
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Slide	Text	Screenshot
11	<p>Memorial Day: A Timeline</p> <p>1861-1865: American Civil War</p> <p>1865: Ceremony honoring dead Union veterans held by freed slaves in South Carolina</p> <p>1866-1867: Americans in many cities decorated soldiers' graves in the spring</p> <p>1868: First national Decoration Day ceremony held at Arlington National Cemetery</p> <p>1921: Tomb of the Unknown Soldier dedicated</p> <p>1966: Waterloo, New York recognized by Congress as the birthplace of Memorial Day</p> <p>1971: Memorial Day becomes a national holiday</p>	

Teacher Guide: Notes for Lecture and Discussion

Optional: You can use this timeline to review the history of Memorial Day in the context of any events you may have studied in American history this year.

Questions:

- What stands out to you on this timeline?
 - Answers may include: how long it took for Memorial Day to become a national holiday, how soon after the Civil War people started decorating graves of fallen service members, etc.
- Some holidays, like Independence Day or Veterans Day, are always held on the same date. Why isn't Memorial Day always held on the same date?
 - Answers may include: it's not tied to a specific historic event like Independence Day or Veterans Day.



- In 1966, Congress recognized Waterloo, New York as the birthplace of Memorial Day. Do you think it matters who observed Memorial Day first?
 - Answers may include: It may not matter to most people, but it probably matters to the people in Waterloo, NY! Many communities develop local traditions that make the people feel connected to other people in their community.
 - Follow-up: What's a tradition in our community that you think other cities or states would appreciate or enjoy?

Additional Information about Timeline Events:

1861-1865: More Americans died during the Civil War than any other war or conflict the United States has been involved in.

1865: During the Civil War, 260 Union soldiers died in a Confederate prison in Charleston, South Carolina. The prison was a converted race track. The dead prisoners were buried in a mass grave behind the grandstands. When Confederate troops left Charleston, freed African Americans exhumed the mass grave and reinterred the bodies in a new cemetery. On May 1, 1865, a crowd of 10,000 brought flowers and staged a parade at the race track honoring the "Martyrs of the Race Course."

1866-1867: Spring Decoration Day observations occur in many cities. People would decorate graves with flowers and recite prayers. Over the years, these traditions became common throughout the country.

1868: Major General John A. Logan declared May 30 as a nationwide day of remembrance, with a ceremony held at Arlington National Cemetery. James Garfield (a Civil War veteran who would become president in 1881) spoke at the event at Arlington. 5,000 people decorated the graves of Union soldiers buried there. Today, the gravesite of every service member in the cemetery is decorated before Memorial Day with a small American flag.

1921: After World War I, the U.S. government created the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier to give Americans a place to honor and remember military service members who died in the war but whose bodies weren't identified. The meaning of Memorial Day expanded as Americans honored those who died in conflicts after the Civil War.

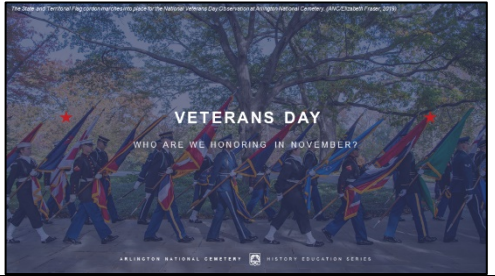

1966: Congress recognized Waterloo, New York as the birthplace of Memorial Day because of the annual, community-wide observation it has held since 1866.

1971: When the U.S. Congress made Memorial Day a national holiday, it set the last Monday in May as the day of observation. While states and communities are not required to recognize federal holidays, Memorial Day is observed across the United States. At Arlington National Cemetery, U.S. Army soldiers decorate each gravesite with a small American flag. At the Memorial Amphitheater, a ceremony honors American veterans and service members. The president or his/her chosen representative usually attends and speaks at this ceremony.

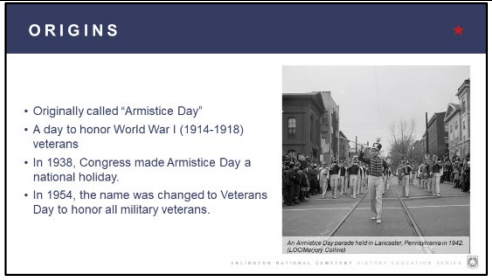

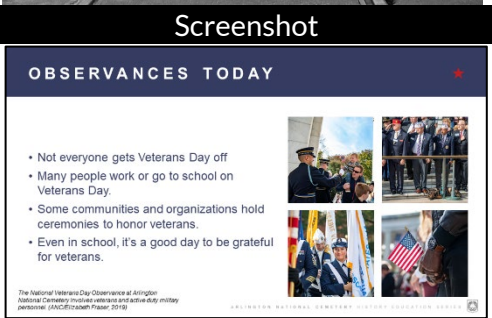


Veterans Day PowerPoint Teacher Guide:

- Introduction: 5 minutes
 - Slide 1: Discuss the guiding question
 - Veterans Day: Who are we honoring in November?
- Activity: 15-20 minutes
 - Use the PPT Teacher guide to go through the PowerPoint and discuss information about Veterans Day, who we are honoring and why it is a holiday.
 - As you go through the PowerPoint, give students time to fill in their Worksheets.
 - The headings in the worksheet do not directly match the PowerPoint headlines. Use this guide:
 - “History”: Slides 2 and 7
 - “Meaning”: Slides 4 – 6
 - “Honoring”: Slides 3 – 4
 - “Tomb of the Unknown Soldier”: Slides 8 – 9
 - “What does Veterans Day mean to me?” is a personal reflection question, but can be related to Slide 11
- Reflection & Conclusion: 5 minutes
 - After students have had a chance to answer the reflection question (What does Veterans Day mean to me?), students can volunteer to share answers with the whole class or share with a partner or small group.

Slide	Text	Screenshot
1	Veterans Day Who are we honoring in November?	
Teacher Guide: Notes for Lecture and Discussion		
Veterans Day is November 11. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why is it a holiday? • Who are we recognizing? • Are there any other holidays that are similar to it? • How do you observe Veterans Day? 		
Caption: <i>The State and Territorial Flag cordon marches into place for the National Veterans Day Observation at Arlington National Cemetery. (ANC/Elizabeth Fraser, 2019)</i>		



Slide	Text	Screenshot
2	<p>Origins</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Originally called “Armistice Day” • A day to honor veterans World War I (1914-1918) veterans • In 1938, Congress made Armistice Day a holiday. • In 1954, the name was changed to Veterans Day to honor all military veterans. <p>Teacher Guide : Notes for Lecture and Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Armistice Day was the day World War I ended in 1918. • November 11 became a day for celebrating peace and honoring veterans of World War I. • While it was first observed in 1919, it became a U.S. holiday in 1938. • After World War II (1939-1945) and the Korean War (1950-1953), the name was changed to Veterans Day in the U.S. Changing the name expanded the meaning of the holiday to honor the sacrifices of all military veterans, whether they served in a particular conflict or not. <p><i>*(Dates) indicate the years of U.S. participation in the conflict.</i></p> <p>Caption: An Armistice Day parade held in Lancaster, Pennsylvania in 1942. (LOC/Marjory Collins)</p>	 <p>ORIGINS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Originally called “Armistice Day” • A day to honor World War I (1914-1918) veterans • In 1938, Congress made Armistice Day a national holiday. • In 1954, the name was changed to Veterans Day to honor all military veterans. <p><small>An Armistice Day parade held in Lancaster, Pennsylvania in 1942. (LOC/Marjory Collins)</small></p> 
3	<p>Observances Today</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not everyone gets Veterans Day off • Many people work or go to school on Veterans Day. • Some communities and organizations hold ceremonies to honor veterans. • Even in school, it’s a good day to be grateful for veterans. <p>Teacher Guide: Notes for Lecture and Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should schools take Veterans Day off? • States, local governments, and private businesses choose their own holidays and many stay open on Veterans Day. 	 <p>OBSERVANCES TODAY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not everyone gets Veterans Day off • Many people work or go to school on Veterans Day. • Some communities and organizations hold ceremonies to honor veterans. • Even in school, it’s a good day to be grateful for veterans. <p><small>The National Veterans Day Observance at Arlington National Cemetery includes veterans and active-duty military personnel. (AANC/Shaughn Prosser, 2016)</small></p>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Every year, Arlington National Cemetery hosts the National Veterans Day Observance. Thousands attend the ceremony held in Memorial Amphitheater, during which the president, vice president or other high-ranking official gives a speech. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What ceremonies are held in your community or at your school? • If you don't have school on Veterans Day, what can you do to honor veterans? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Alternate question: If you didn't have school on Veterans Day, how would you use the day to honor veterans? 	
	<p>Caption: <i>The National Veterans Day Observance at Arlington National Cemetery involves veterans and active duty military personnel. (ANC/Elizabeth Fraser, 2018 and 2019)</i></p> <p>(Note: there are 4 images, but only 1 caption)</p>	
Slide	Text	Screenshot
4	<p>Meaning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Honors every veteran who has served the United States • Honors those who served in any war or during peacetime • The focus is on gratitude for living veterans and active duty members. 	
<p>Teacher Guide: Notes for Lecture and Discussion</p>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Services and ceremonies on this day often focus on recognizing veterans and expressing gratitude for them. • Veterans Day is not just for those who fought in a war: it's a day to show appreciation for anyone who has served in the U.S. military. • Veterans Day is also an opportunity for people to reflect on freedoms that Americans enjoy because of the military service members who have kept the United States safe. Some people write letters or cards to veterans thanking them for their service. <p>Questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How does your family or community observe Veterans Day? • Does your family or community have any Veterans Day traditions? • Do any of those traditions make you think about the sacrifices people have made for the United States? 		



Caption:

Veterans attend the Veterans Day Observation in the Memorial Amphitheater at Arlington National Cemetery. (ANC/Elizabeth Fraser)



Slide

Text

Screenshot

5

Who Serves?

- Veterans are men and women who have served in the military.
- There are six main U.S. military branches.

Note: There are no captions for the seals of the different Service Branches.



Teacher Guide: Notes for Lecture and Discussion

- Veterans have served “on active duty.” This means they were in the military for their job full time.
- The branches are Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Space Force and Coast Guard.

Questions:

- Who can serve in the military?
 - Anyone who meets age and mental and physical fitness requirements
 - Each branch has specific requirements, which are linked below.
- Have women always been able to serve?
 - No, but women have always supported military service in different ways, including working as cooks, spies, or nurses.
 - Some women even disguised themselves as men in order to fight!
 - Women first officially enlisted in the military during World War I (Navy Yeoman F) and WAC (WWII) and during World War II more opportunities for service opened up. Women had also served as nurses.
 - Eventually, women became part of the regular military and the roles in which they are able to serve have expanded.
- Have racial minorities always been able to serve?
 - No. Sometimes they were:
 - barred from service (for example, African Americans couldn’t serve at the beginning of the Civil War)
 - subject to quotas (the number who could serve was limited),
 - barred from specific types of jobs (for example, at the start of World War II, African Americans weren’t allowed to be pilots)
 - required to serve in racially segregated units



Army Requirements: <https://www.goarmy.com/learn/army-requirements-and-qualifications.html>
 Navy Requirements: <https://www.navy.com/joining-navy-if-you-havent-served>
 Marine Corps Requirements: <https://www.marines.com/becoming-a-marine/overview.html>
 Air Force Requirements: <https://www.airforce.com/how-to-join/prepare-for-success/meet-requirements>
 Space Force Requirements: <https://www.airforce.com/spaceforce>
 Coast Guard Requirements: <https://www.go CoastGuard.com/faq/what-are-the-qualifications-to-join-the-coast-guard>

Slide	Text	Screenshot
6	<p>U.S Military Branches</p> <p>Army:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Largest and oldest branch • Provide ground forces <p>Navy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protection on the sea <p>Marine Corps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fast sea and land deployment <p>Air Force:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide air power and support <p>Space:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Newest branch • Protect American interests in space <p>Coast Guard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guard American harbors and coast 	

Teacher Guide: Notes for Lecture and Discussion

- What are the main U.S military branches?
 - Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, Space Force and Coast Guard
- How are they different from each other?
 - The Army provides ground forces: soldiers fight on land using armor (such as tanks), artillery, helicopters, etc. It’s also the largest and oldest military branch.
 - The Navy operates on oceans and seas with ships of different sizes and submarines under water. Even during peacetime, it operates around the world to maintain and protect U.S. interests.
 - The Marine Corps operates under the Department of the Navy, but is a separate organization. The Marines provide forces that can move quickly on land, sea or in the air. Their specialty is to assault, capture and control beachheads. To be self-sufficient in combat operations, the Marine Corps has its own air power.
 - The Air Force provides support in the air. It uses fighter aircraft, tanker aircraft, bomber aircraft, transport aircraft, helicopters and drones. It can deliver forces anywhere in the world within hours. Before 1947, it was part of the Army.
 - The Space Force was formed in 2019 to protect American interests in space and provide space capabilities to the other service branches. It operates under the Department of the Air Force.
 - The Coast Guard stays close to the United States and keeps its ports and shorelines safe. It provides maritime safety and environmental support. During peacetime, the Coast Guard is part of the Department of Homeland Security. In a war, it could become part of the Navy.
- How are the branches similar?
 - There’s overlap in the technology and transportation that different branches use. For instance, in addition to sailors and ships, the Navy also has pilots that fly planes from



	<p>large ships. The Army also has airplanes, helicopters, and pilots. The Navy and the Coast Guard both have ships, etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ They work together to keep the United States safe from countries, organizations, and people that might want to harm it. <p>Caption: <i>Military personnel train in a variety of circumstances and locations. (Photos from U.S. Air Force, Department of Defense, Marine Corps and Coast Guard, 2015, 2019 and 2020)</i></p>	
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Slide	Text	Screenshot
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7	<p>Why November 11?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • World War I was originally called the “World War” or “The Great War.” • At the time, it was the largest war ever fought. • On November 11, 1918 at 11:00 a.m., the fighting stopped, and the Armistice started. 	
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Teacher Guide: Notes for Lecture and Discussion

- When it happened between 1914 and 1918, World War I was the largest war that had ever been fought.
- There were more countries and people involved than in any previous conflict.
- In the autumn of 1918, the warring countries agreed to stop fighting. On November 11, 1918 at 11:00 a.m. (the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month), the guns of World War I fell silent. Neither side had surrendered. Instead the war ended with an armistice: an agreement to stop fighting.

Note about the photographs used on this slide: These images all show ways that World War I was different from other wars. Much of the fighting was done by soldiers positioned in trenches and using new technology. Women were able to serve in limited ways in the Navy and Marine Corps; they also supported the military from outside of its ranks. Racially segregated units, such as the all-African American 369th Infantry (nicknamed the “Harlem Hellfighters,” pictured) faced racism but served



	<p>honorably in France. Airplanes, which would be so important in World War II, began to be widely used in combat.</p>	
	<p>Caption: <i>World War I witnessed many changes in technology, fighting, and military participation. (LOC and NARA, ca. 1917-1921)</i></p>	
Slide	Text	Screenshot
8	<p>Honoring Unknown Soldiers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • After World War I, people wanted to honor those who died in the war but whose bodies couldn't be identified. • In 1921, the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier was built at Arlington National Cemetery. • One Unknown Soldier from WWI was buried in the grave on November 11, 1921. • He represents every unknown service member. 	
<p>Teacher Guide: Notes for Lecture and Discussion</p>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reasons that bodies couldn't be identified included: lost identification discs (which were like "dog tags"), a lack of identifying objects, disfigurement, etc. Also, technologies such as DNA identification did not yet exist. • The Tomb was a way to honor unidentified soldiers whose bodies remained in Europe and whose families wouldn't be able to visit their gravesites. • Before World War I, monuments to unknown soldiers often had more than one body buried there. By World War I, people thought it was important that each person have his or her own grave whenever possible. • The Unknown represents every unknown service member who died in the conflict. The monument offered a place for families who lost a loved one whose body was never recovered to grieve. 		



	<p>Caption: In 1927, mourners place wreaths at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. (LOC/Harris & Ewing)</p>	
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Slide	Text	Screenshot
9	<p>Tomb of the Unknown Soldier</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Later, three graves were added to honor unknown soldiers from other wars. • “Here rests in honored glory an American soldier, known but to God.” • Located at Arlington National Cemetery • Guarded 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, rain or shine, for over 80 years 	

Teacher Guide: Notes for Lecture and Discussion




Teacher note: Details about the other three Unknown Soldiers are provided for those who will not be completing the full “Tomb of the Unknown Soldier” lesson.

- The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier is the final resting place for three American service members: one each from World War I, World War II, and the Korean War. After World War II (1939-1945) and the Korean War (1950-1953), an Unknown Soldier from each conflict were buried in crypts to the left and the right of the Tomb. The center crypt held a service member from the Vietnam War (1958-1975) for 14 years. In 1998, his body was exhumed, identified and reburied in Missouri at his family’s request. The center crypt is now empty and dedicated to all missing service members from the Vietnam War.
- The Tomb is inscribed with the words “Here rests in honored glory an American soldier, known but to God.” No one knows the names of the people buried there. When they died, no one could identify them, so they couldn’t be buried near their families. This used to happen to a lot of soldiers but with advances in technology we’re now able to identify the remains of those who die in war.
- The Tomb is in Arlington National Cemetery, which is in Virginia right outside of Washington, D.C.
- The Tomb is guarded every minute of every day by elite soldiers who volunteered and trained for this special duty.

Questions:

- How do you know that the Tomb is a special place?
 - It’s guarded all of the time. The guards are chosen specially for the job and work hard in order to show respect for the Tomb and other soldiers.
- Why are there wreaths in the picture?




	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flowers are often used to decorate graves. The wreaths at the Tomb are laid by school groups, veterans' groups, foreign dignitaries and even the president of the United States. <p>Caption: <i>Soldiers guard the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier no matter the weather. Wreath-laying ceremonies are common. (ANC/Elizabeth Fraser)</i></p>	
Slide	Text	Screenshot
10	<p>Remembering November 11</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Other countries also recognize their veterans on November 11. In Canada, Australia and Great Britain, the holiday is called "Remembrance Day." 	
<p>Teacher Guide: Notes for Lecture and Discussion</p>		
<p>November 11 is an important date for other countries that fought in World War I. Different countries observe the holiday in different ways. In the British Commonwealth (especially Great Britain, Canada, Australia), red poppies are often worn and used in Remembrance Day ceremonies or decorations. The significance of the red poppies comes from a famous poem about World War I, "In Flanders Field," by Canadian John McCrae. (Americans also use poppies in their ceremonies, though they are not as common in the U.S. as in Commonwealth countries.)</p> <p>The text to the poem can be found here: https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poems/47380/in-flanders-fields</p>		
	<p>Caption: <i>A government official in Australia lays a wreath at the Flame of Remembrance in Kings Park in Perth, Australia in 2011. (Public Domain)</i></p>	



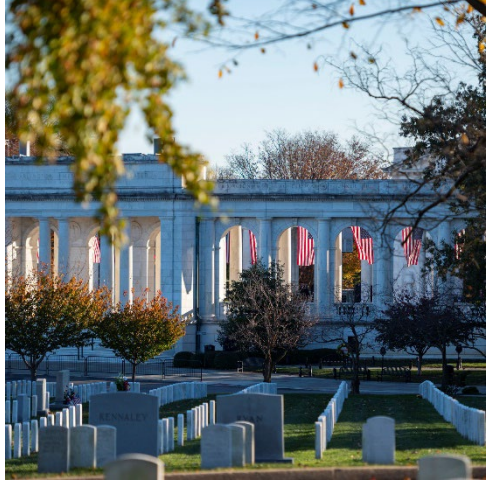
	<p>A Remembrance Day banner in Cairns, Australia. (Unsplash, 2019)</p>	
	<p>Remembrance crosses in a town in England. (Unsplash)</p>	

Slide	Text	Screenshot
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<p>11</p>	<p>National Holidays</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> National holidays give people a chance to honor others and to think about what it means to be an American What other American holidays do you observe? 	
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Teacher Guide: Notes for Lecture and Discussion

Answers may include: Independence Day, Memorial Day, Labor Day, Martin Luther King Jr. Day, etc. While there are other state and federal holidays, only a few of them focus on what it means to be an American.

	<p>Caption: Memorial Amphitheater at Arlington National Cemetery on Veterans Day 2018. (ANC/Elizabeth Fraser)</p>	
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Slide	Text	Screenshot
12	<p>Veterans Day: A Timeline</p> <p>1918: World War I armistice ended the war</p> <p>1921: Tomb of the Unknown Soldier dedicated</p> <p>1938: Armistice Day became a U.S. federal holiday</p> <p>1939-1945: World War II</p> <p>1950-1953: Korean War</p> <p>1954: Armistice Day renamed Veterans Day</p> <p>1971: Veterans Day moved to the fourth Monday in October</p> <p>1958-1975: Vietnam War</p> <p>1978: Veterans Day moved back to November 11</p>	<p>The screenshot shows a horizontal timeline from 1900 to 2000. Key events are marked with vertical lines and text boxes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1918: World War I armistice ended the war 1921: Tomb of the Unknown Soldier dedicated 1938: Armistice Day became a U.S. federal holiday 1939-1945: World War II 1950-1953: Korean War 1954: Armistice Day renamed Veterans Day 1958-1975: Vietnam War 1971: Veterans Day moved to the fourth Monday in October 1978: Veterans Day moved back to November 11
<p>Teacher Guide: Notes for Lecture and Discussion</p>		
<p><i>Optional: You can use this timeline to review the history of Veterans Day in the context of any events you may have studied in American history this year.</i></p>		
<p>Additional information about Timeline events:</p>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 1971, Veterans Day was moved to the fourth Monday in October to create a 3-day weekend. However, this caused confusion as some state and local governments continued observing Veterans Day on November 11. In 1978, Veterans Day was moved back to November 11 because of the date's historical significance. 		
<p>Questions:</p>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What stands out to you on this timeline? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Answers may include: how soon after World War I Armistice Day became a national holiday, how it was observed in October for only 7 years, etc. Some holidays, such as Labor Day and Memorial Day, are always held on a specific Monday. Why isn't Veterans Day still observed on a specific Monday? Don't people like 3-day weekends? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Answers may include: November 11 is an historic date. 		



Who's Buried in the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier?

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Slide 1: Elizabeth Fraser, Memorial Day 2018, May 28, 2018, Arlington National Cemetery.

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/arlingtonnatl/28545287858/in/album-72157697331483635/>

Slide 2: Elizabeth Fraser, Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, August 7, 2018, Arlington National Cemetery.

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Slide 4: Harris & Ewing, Honors Unknown Dead, 1933, Library of Congress.

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Slide 5: Elizabeth Fraser, National Memorial Day Observance at Arlington National Cemetery, May 27, 2019,

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Slide 5: Harris & Ewing, Honors Unknown Dead, 1933, Library of Congress.

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Slide 6: Seasons-Winter, 2014, Arlington National Cemetery.

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Slide 7: NH 54117 Unknown Servicemen of World War II and the Korean War, May 26, 1958, Naval History and

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Slide 8: Colonel Eggleston Designates Choice by Placing Lei on One Casket, May 1958, U.S. Army.

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Slide 9: Al Chang, A Marine Corps honor guard stands around the flag draped casket of the Unknown Soldier of the Vietnam War during a wreath laying ceremony, May 17, 1958, National Archives.

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Slide 10: Elizabeth Fraser, Fall Foliage 2018, November 2, 2018, Arlington National Cemetery.

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Slide 11: Elizabeth Fraser, German Minister of Defence Ursula von der Leyen Participates in an Armed Forces Full Honors Wreath-Laying Ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, June 20, 2018, Arlington National Cemetery. <https://www.flickr.com/photos/arlingtonnatl/42208815104/in/album-72157697687550294/>

Slide 11: Roger Smith, His Excellency, Edwin Barclay, President of the Republic of Liberia, paid homage to the Unknown Soldier on a visit to Arlington National Cemetery Saturday, May 29th. May 29, 1943, Arlington National Cemetery. <https://www.loc.gov/item/2017854969/>

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Slide 6: Emerson Nuñez, F-15E Strike Eagles Prepare to Receive Fuel, March 5, 2020, U.S. Air Force. <https://www.af.mil/News/Photos.aspx?igphoto=2002264420>

Slide 6: Unknown, Schofield Barracks East Range, Hawaii, Marcy 7, 2020, U.S. Department of Defense. <https://www.defense.gov/observe/photo-gallery/igphoto/2002263037/>

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<https://www.marines.mil/Photos/igcategory/Combat/?igphoto=2002217165>

Slide 6: Ross Ruddell, James Boston Bound- Division: East -Seed: 5, August 3, 2015, U.S. Coast Guard.

https://www.flickr.com/photos/coast_guard/25834522826/in/album-72157665813199041/

Slide 6: Unknown, AEHF-6 Launch, March 26, 2020, U.S. Space Force. <https://www.spaceforce.mil/Connect-With-Us/Photos?igphoto=2002290843>

Slide 7: Keystone View Co., "Over the Top" -American Soldiers Answering the Bugle Call to "Charge," ca. March 25, 1918, Library of Congress. <https://www.loc.gov/resource/cph.3b22390/>

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<https://www.flickr.com/photos/arlingtonnatl/30793532357/in/album-72157674220937287/>

Slide 10: Gngarra. Remembrance Day service November 11, 2011 Kings Park, Western Australia. Malcolm McCusker laying a wreath, November 11, 2011, Wikimedia Commons.

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:11_Nov_gngarra-9.jpg

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