

**Box 1a. Silence of Armistice**



## List of contents

1. Multiple artificial red poppy petals
2. Zappar code link to The Last Post (audio) and film repeated on several poppy petals
3. Two-minute hour-glass timer hidden amongst the poppy petals
4. Envelope containing the text of readings used during traditional Remembrance Services.

## Key information

- The first remembrance service was in on 11 November 1919 hosted by King George V at Buckingham Palace. Hostilities had ended on the 11<sup>th</sup> hour of the 11<sup>th</sup> day of the 11<sup>th</sup> month.
- The poppy is taken from the field poppy, Papaver Rhoeas, and has been used as a symbol of remembrance since 1921.
- The poppy seeds lie dormant in the earth and can wait for many years until conditions are right for them to germinate and flower. In the battle fields of the Western Front the land had been churned up by shells and mines, providing ideal conditions for the poppies burst into life, filling the battle fields with a profusion of red colour as they bloomed.

## Text used:

The Exhortations:

*'They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:  
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.  
At the going down of the sun and in the morning  
We will remember them.'*

Extract from 'The Fallen' by Lawrence Binyon, first published in the Times in September 21<sup>st</sup> 1914

*'When you go home, Tell them of us and say,  
For your tomorrows, We gave our today.'*

Epitaph written by John Maxwell Edmonds (1919)

## Zappar link:

Download the Zappar app on a smart phone or iPad. Hover over the code below to hear The Last Post being played and to view 2 minute film of war cemeteries at the Menin Gate.



### 1a Silence of Armistice. Questions



1. Why are there poppy petals in here?
2. What do the poppies symbolise?
3. Can you find the items and zappar code hidden in this box?

4. Select and perform in this order:

- a person to open the envelope and read the passages
- a person to click the zappar code
- a person to hold the hour glass and for everyone to stand still and silent for two minutes.



5. How did the passages read out make you feel?
6. How does it feel to stand still and quiet for two minutes?
7. What happened to time? What did you hear?

### **Suggested box combinations**

This box can be used in conjunction with 1b scroll, plus any other box. **Box 2 Silence of mourning** works well as part of an introductory sequence to the concept of silence.

### **Suggested activities**

Silence: How long can you be silent? How does it make you feel?

- Agree the amount of time to be silent. Try this in different locations:
  - in the usual classroom
  - in a busy place – for example lunch time
  - outside in a very quiet place
- Before speaking, signal the last two minutes of silence and write down how it has made you feel, the things you noticed in each place and noting where your favourite place was to be quiet.
- Now try the same thing but this time agree the things you are going to focus the mind on. For example – focusing on happy thoughts, or focusing on courage, focusing on gratitude. Repeat the silence in the same spaces but this time using the focus. After each space write down anything you have noticed, how it has made you feel and if you would do it again.

### **Caring for the box after use**

- Please make sure all the poppy petals are in the box.
- If there is a problem with the Zappar code, do not place that petal back in the box, but please let H4A know.
- Please place the written passages in the envelope, returning it to the box.
- Please return the hour glass to the container.
- Report any damage straight away to H4A.