

Title: Veterans Day

Introduction: In this lesson, students will develop an understanding of the history of Veterans Day and the meaning of this national holiday.

During this lesson, students will conduct research at the Veterans War Memorial of Texas in McAllen, using textbooks, the internet, the library and other available classroom resources. In addition, students will conduct an interview with a veteran from any era. The outcome of this lesson is to develop a poster presentation with a timeline of the history of Veterans Day along with information gathered from the interview.

Grade Level and Subject: <Identify the target grade(s) and subject area(s)>

TEKS: <Identify and link the relevant TEKS areas to your topic>

Resources:

Pens, Pencils, Markers

Posterboard

Glue

Internet Access

Computers with powerpoint (or other multimedia) and printers if available

Optional: Conduct a field trip to the Veterans War Memorial of Texas in McAllen on Veterans Day

Procedures:

Write one to two paragraphs on the history of Veterans Day using information found within the Veterans War Memorial, your textbook, school library and online resources. Use at least two sources and include the following information:

- When and how Armistice Day was first established and which veterans the day was to honor
- When and how did Armistice Day change to Veterans Day
- Include a summary of the interview you conducted with a veteran

Conduct an interview with a veteran from any era. Gather the following information using the attached form:

- Name
- Branch of Service such as Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard

- What years they served
- Where they served
- Type of job they had in the military
- What does Veterans Day mean to them

Use multimedia, print pictures from the internet, or draw pictures by hand to develop a creative presentation. Include the following information on your posterboard:

- A timeline showing the creation of Armistice Day illustrating the evolution to the current Veterans Day holiday
- A summary of the interview conducted with a veteran

Online Resources:

The Veterans War Memorial of Texas Lesson Plans Wiki - History of Veterans Day powerpoint
<http://vetmem.pbworks.com/f/Veterans%20Day.pptx>

The Veterans War Memorial of Texas
<http://www.mcallen.net/veterans/default.aspx>

Department of Veterans Affairs – Veterans Day Home Page
<http://www1.va.gov/opa/vetsday/index.asp>

Department of Veterans Affairs – History of Veterans Day
<http://www1.va.gov/opa/vetsday/vetdayhistory.asp>

U.S. Army Center for Military History – The History of Veterans Day
<http://www.history.army.mil/faq/vetsday/vetshist.htm>