EDUCATION PROGRAM

Activity & Resource Sheets

ANZAC
Where history and spirit meet

Educational materials to support the commemoration of ANZAC Day
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Activity Sheet No. 1

Parts of a commemoration ceremony

This is a list of the various parts of commemoration ceremonies used in Australia:

• Laying of wreaths
• Recitation of The Ode
• Period of silence
• The Unknown Soldier
• A Lone Charger
• Rosemary
• Rifle Volleys and Gun Salutes
• The Lone Piper and Flowers of the Forest.
• Wearing of red poppies and recitation of In Flanders Fields

Select ONE of these and circle it to indicate which part you are investigating. Visit the Australian War Memorial’s website at www.awm.gov.au/commemoration/customs/last_post.htm to find links to the different elements of the ceremony. Use information you find there to respond to each of the questions in the boxes below.

What happens during this part of the ceremony?

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Activity Sheet No. 1 (continued):

Parts of a commemoration ceremony

How does this help us to remember the service and sacrifice of others?

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Where did this idea come from?

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Should it be a part of your school commemoration ceremony?

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## Resource 1: 1915 Timeline

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<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Key events</th>
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<td>December</td>
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Resource 2:
Gallipoli Photographs

Read the following scenario:

A parcel of photographs from Gallipoli has arrived at your group’s office. You have been asked to prepare an item to commemorate ANZAC Day and the service and sacrifice of Australian men and women who served there. Your item could be presented using one or more media such as a written report, newspaper article, dramatic presentation, mural, frieze, series of paintings, annotated photographic exhibition or a combination of these.

You are only allowed to use ideas from five of the photographs to illustrate the living and fighting conditions of these service men and women. To help you select your photographs, use the list of questions in Resource 3. These questions will help you decide:

- why each photograph was taken
- whether or not you could use each photograph in your production
- how it could be used.

Your finished product is due on .........................

You will need to support your choice of photographs with good reasons. Equally good reasons must be given to explain why you did not use the other photographs.

Work in your group and decide:

- how you will present your information
- which photographs to include in your article
- if you can use any of the other photographs to give you information and ideas for your article
- what other information you will need as background information to help explain your product to viewers and readers.
Resource 2 (continued):

Gallipoli Photographs

The following photographs are provided for you:

**A03050**

Stores, limber and soldiers on ANZAC Beach

**P00516.002**

Walker’s Ridge: Notice the difficult country. The drop is 100 metres. The Turks are less than 75 metres away over the ridge.

**A00718**

Trench life. Notice feet of resting soldier. Soldier at front is cooking a meal in a hole in the wall.

**C01734**

Close up of dugouts of the Field Ambulance.
**Resource 2 (continued):**

**Gallipoli Photographs**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table: Additional photographs</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>You can select other photographs from the Australian War Memorial’s website at <a href="http://www.awm.gov.au">www.awm.gov.au</a>. Use the Collections database. Click onto ‘Collections search’ and type in ‘Gallipoli’ as the search term and identify ‘First World War’ as the conflict. There are nearly 7,000 photographs and other items available at this site that relate to ANZAC and Gallipoli. Some suggestions are:</td>
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<tr>
<td>J05589</td>
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<td>P02237.001</td>
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<td>P01116.003</td>
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<td>C01482</td>
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Resource 3:  
**Visual literacy questions**

Select questions from the following lists to guide your discussions. Also think about other ideas that some of these photographs illustrate that are not suggested by the listed questions.

**Analysing the purpose of the photographs:**
- Who and/or what is in each photograph?
- What is happening in each photograph?
- When do you think that each photograph was taken?
- Which photographs are natural and which ones are posed?
- How can you tell?
- What do you think happened before each photograph was taken?
- What do you think happened after each photograph was taken?
- Why do you think these photographs were taken? What do they tell you?
- Where do you think the photographer stood when the photograph was taken?
- Do you think it might look much different if it was taken from another position?
- What might be happening outside each photograph?
- Is there anything in any of these photographs that shows humour?
- Do these photographs illustrate a hard life? How can you tell this?
- If you looked inside some of the buildings or containers or around the corners of these trenches in these photographs, what do you think you would see?
- What are some of the feelings you had as you looked at each photograph?
- If you had to write a caption for each photograph for your newspaper article, what would it be?
Visual literacy questions

Putting yourself in the picture: Living and serving at Gallipoli in 1915

These photographs may help you to gain a better understanding of what it might be like living in Gallipoli. Which photographs (if any) might help you to answer the following questions? Are there other questions you would want to ask after seeing these photographs?

- Where would you sleep?
- Where would you shelter from extreme heat and the rain?
- How would you keep warm?
- What toilet facilities would you have to use?
- How would you feel if you did not receive any letters from family and friends?
- What would you do if you lost your food rations while on active duty?
- What would you do if you did not like some of your rations?
- How would you exercise?
- What could you do if you became ill? Where would you be able to receive treatment? What might make this difficult for you?
- How would you try to cope with very wet and soggy conditions, extreme heat or a very heavy dust storm?
- Would you have any leisure time?
- What might you do to stay calm during periods of endless gunfire?

Also consider:

- Are there any questions you would want to address in your presentation which this set of photographs did not help you to answer?
The words on the wall of the Entry Courtyard of the Visitor Centre at the Shrine of Remembrance are as follows:

**ANZAC is not merely about loss. It is about courage, and endurance, and duty, and love of country, and mateship, and good humour and the survival of a sense of self-worth and decency in the face of dreadful odds.**

The full text of the speech from which this quotation was taken was given as Sir William Deane’s Address to the Dawn Service, ANZAC Cove on 25 April 1999. Sir William was Governor-General of Australia, 1996-2001.

“Just before dawn, on that first Anzac Day 84 years ago, the boats carrying the 1500 men who would make the first landing were moving through darkness towards these shores. All was silent, save for whispers of apprehension and the splash of oars.

Ahead of them, two searchlights briefly pencilled the sky, then disappeared. Still silence. The leading boats touched the beach. The first Anzacs leaped out. A yellow beacon flared to the south and a single shot was heard. Then several more. And as the boats further out came in, the fire broke upon them from the heights above us. The silence and the waiting were over. And the key, as one of the Anzacs was later to say, ‘was being turned in the lock of hell’.

All the demons of war were let loose as the day wore on. Some men died in the boats and on the beaches · many more in the bitter fighting up on the ridges · through scrub and ravines towards the third ridge. There were the sounds of gunfire and of bombs. And of the screams of combat, of suffering and of death. And occasionally through it all, so we are told, there came the voices of young soldiers singing: “Australia will be there”. And, in at least one instance, ‘This bit of the world belongs to us’.

By the evening, 16,000 men of the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps had landed here; of them some 2000 were dead or seriously wounded. And the Turkish defenders had forced the advance back to the second ridge - from which position, despite some small gains at huge cost, nothing essentially changed over the next eight months.

There are now no living Anzacs who were here on that first day. The last survivor, Ted Matthews, an Australian signaller, died in December 1997. There are only a few remaining of the Anzacs who subsequently served here during the Gallipoli campaign. The last New Zealander, Doug Dibley, a stretcher-bearer, died a little more than fifteen months ago. The fourth last Australian, Frank Isaacs, died in Perth only this month. So few left who experienced - who can personally recall - the long months of stalemate, of attack and counter-attack on pieces of hillside that were given soldiers’ names - Plugge’s Plateau (behind us), Quinn’s Post, MacLaggan’s Ridge, Johnston’s Jolly. Yet the story of those months, and of all that they involve, lives in our national histories and collective memories.
Resource 4 (continued):

Writings about ANZAC and the ANZAC Spirit

For Anzac is not merely about loss. It is about courage, and endurance, and duty, and love of country, and mateship, and good humour and the survival of a sense of self-worth and decency in the face of dreadful odds. These were qualities and values the pioneers had discovered in themselves in what were, for Europeans, the new lands of Australia and New Zealand. They were tested here and on the ancient battlefields of Europe for the first time in the Great War. They were not found wanting.

This was not the Anzacs’ bloodiest campaign of that war. The casualties in France overwhelmed those of Gallipoli. But it was the first. And it was heroic even in failure. And what makes it unique is that it was here the people of our countries - Australia and New Zealand - found their nationhood.

‘Before the war who ever heard of Anzac,’ said their Commander-in-Chief, the British General Sir Ian Hamilton. ‘Hereafter’, he added, ‘who will ever forget it?’

The campaign failed, but the men were not defeated. There is a crucial difference. In a triumph of daring and initiative, over 35,000 Anzacs were evacuated during eleven December nights, with barely a casualty. With their boots muffled, the last of them came down from the heights to the beaches on 20 December, and into the boats that took them in darkness and silence back to the waiting ships.

But their dead - our dead - remained behind. Here on the other side of the world from the lands they loved: over 2,700 New Zealanders and over 8,100 Australians. For many who were leaving that was the unbearable tragedy. In words which I quoted at Ted Matthews’ funeral, one of them wrote:

‘Not only muffled is our tread/To cheat the foe,
We fear to rouse our honoured dead/To hear us go.
Sleep sound, old friends - the keenest smart
Which, more than failure, wounds the heart,
Is thus to leave you - thus to part’.

Yet we are not apart. While this is Turkish land, it has become a sacred site of our nations. And we are united with those young Anzacs who were left here so long ago. Not only while we are here, honouring them and all that they bequeathed us. But also - constantly - in their and our homelands so far away. For there as well as here, their spirit walks abroad. To challenge, to guide and to inspire. For as long as we remember. For as long as our nations endure.

No one can express all that this day means to us Australians and New Zealanders. It is, said Australia’s great historian Manning Clark, ‘about something too deep for words’. But in the stillness of the early dawn, and in the silence that will settle once more along this shoreline, we feel it in the quiet of our hearts. The sense of great sadness. Of loss. Of gratitude. Of honour. Of national identity. Of our past. Of the spirit, the depth, the meaning, the very essence of our nations. And of the human values which those first Anzacs - and those who came after them - embodied and which we, their heirs, must cherish and pass to the future. May they rest with God.”

You can also download other speeches by Sir William Deane that relate to the ANZAC Spirit at:

The following words hang in the offices of the Queensland State Offices of the RSL.

**At the going down of the sun...**

I crouched in a shallow trench on that hell of exposed beaches... steeply rising foothills bare of cover... a landscape pockmarked with war’s inevitable litter... piles of stores... equipment... ammunition... and the weird contortions of death sculptured in Australian flesh... I saw the going down of the sun on that first ANZAC Day... the chaotic maelstrom of Australia’s bleeding.

I fought in the frozen mud of the Somme... in a blazing destroyer exploding on the North Sea... I fought on the perimeter at Tobruk... crashed in the flaming wreckage of a fighter in New Guinea... lived with the damned in the place cursed with the name Changi.

I was your mate... the kid across the street... the med. student at graduation... the mechanic in the corner garage... the baker who brought you bread... the gardener who cut your lawn... the clerk who sent your phone bill.

I was an Army private... a Naval commander... an Air Force bombardier. no man knows me... no name marks my tomb, for I am every Australian serviceman... I am the Unknown Soldier.

I died for a cause I held just in the service of my land... that you and yours may say in freedom... I am proud to be an Australian.


Visit the following website:

[www.rsl.org.au/commemoration/anzac.html](http://www.rsl.org.au/commemoration/anzac.html) to read the poem *We’re All Australians Now* that Banjo Paterson wrote as an open letter to the troops in 1915.

Resource 5:

**Hymns, songs, prayers and poems used in commemoration ceremonies**

**The Ode**
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.

**For the fallen**
With proud thanksgiving, a mother for her children,
England mourns for her dead across the sea.
Flesh of her flesh they were, spirit of her spirit,
Fallen in the cause of the free.

Solemn the drums thrill: Death august and royal
Sings sorrow up into immortal spheres.
There is a music in the midst of desolation
And a glory that shines upon our tears.

They went with songs to the battle, they were young,
Straight of limb, true of eye, steady and aglow.
They were staunch to the end against odds uncounted,
They fell with their faces to the foe.

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.

They mingle not with their laughing comrades again;
They sit no more at familiar tables at home;
They have no lot in our labour of the day-time;
They sleep beyond England’s foam.

But where our desires are and our hopes profound,
Felt as a well-spring that is hidden from sight,
To the innermost heart of their own land they are known
As the stars are known to the Night;
Resource 5 (continued):

Hymns, songs, prayers and poems used in commemoration ceremonies today

As the stars that shall be bright when we are dust,
Moving in marches upon the heavenly plain,
As the stars that are starry in the time of our darkness,
To the end, to the end, they remain.


In Flanders Fields

In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved, and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.

Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae (1872-1918), Professor of Medicine, McGill University. A gunner during the Boer War and medical officer for the first Canadian contingent during World War I.
Resource 5 (continued):

**Hymns, songs, prayers and poems used in commemoration ceremonies today**

**O Valiant Hearts**

O valiant hearts, who to your glory came  
Through dust of conflict and through battle-flame  
Tranquil you lie, your knightly virtue proved,  
Your memory hallowed in the land you loved.

Proudly you gathered, rank on rank to war,  
As who heard God’s message from afar;  
All you hoped for, all you had you gave,  
To save mankind - yourselves you scorned to save.

Splendid you passed, the great surrender made,  
Into the light that never more shall fade;  
Deep your contentment in that blest abode;  
Who wait the last clear trumpet-call of God.

*Sir J.S. Arkwright, 1919*

Resource 6:  
**ANZAC Tribute**

*Those heroes that shed their blood and lost their lives...*  
You are now lying in the soil of a friendly country.  
Therefore rest in peace.  
There is no difference between the Johnnies and the Mehmets to us where they lie side by side here in this country of ours...  
You, the mothers, who sent their sons from faraway countries wipe away your tears;  
Your sons are now lying in our bosom and are in peace.  
After having lost their lives on this land.  
They have become our sons as well.