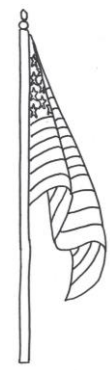


# A History of Veterans Day

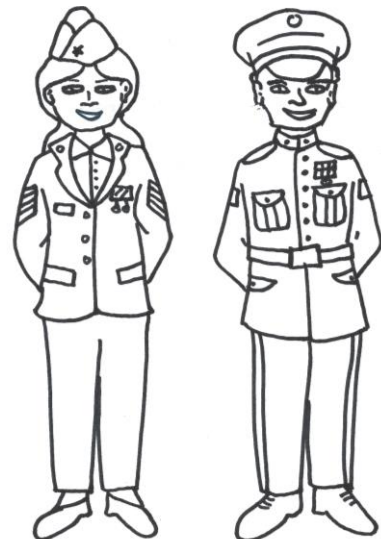


Veteran's Day honors all American veterans of all wars, but is especially meant to honor those who are currently living. Veterans Day began as a holiday to honor the soldiers who fought in World War I, which began in 1914, and which the USA joined in 1917. At the time this was called the "Great War." The word "Great" has a different meaning in history than in how it is used by most people today. Like the Great Depression and the Great Fire, the word "Great" means huge and memorable, not morally good. Many people at the time believed it would be the last war ever and also called it "the war to end all wars."

The fighting stopped at the 11<sup>th</sup> hour, on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of the 11<sup>th</sup> month (November). Another word for an end to fighting is armistice. After the war the anniversary of the armistice became known as Armistice Day. It became a federal holiday in 1938. After World War II, the "Great War" became known as World War I and Armistice Day was renamed Veterans Day in 1954.

## Veterans Day Traditions

- ❖ Many places have two minutes of silence starting at exactly 11 am on November 11<sup>th</sup>.
- ❖ Many cities have Veterans Day parades.
- ❖ Arlington National Cemetery is a cemetery for soldiers killed in battle. The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier is dedicated to soldiers who die but cannot be identified. Since 1958, there has been an official ceremony to lay a wreath on this tomb every Veterans Day.
- ❖ In some countries a red poppy is worn.
- ❖ Some other countries that fought in WWI also call the day Remembrance Day.



# Veterans Day Timeline



Cut out strips and glue onto the following page next to the year each event happened.

The ceremony of laying a wreath on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery began.

Armistice Day became a national holiday.

World War I began.

The fighting stopped at the 11<sup>th</sup> hour on the 11<sup>th</sup> day.

Armistice Day was renamed Veterans Day.

The USA joined World War I.

# Veterans Day Timeline



**1914**

**1917**

**1918**

**1938**

**1954**

**1958**

# Veterans Day Word Jumble



World War, Armistice, Veterans, Arlington, Federal, Military, Memorial, American, Soldiers, Remembrance

ermcasiti

---

ryiltmai

---

grliaonnt

---

dwlaorrw

---

etevnsar

---

marencai

---

leerdfa

---

amoemlir

---

olsdrise

---

creanmmereb

---

# Veterans Day Word Search

W	Q	T	A	M	E	R	I	C	A	N
Y	O	S	U	I	O	P	L	K	J	M
A	Z	R	A	S	D	F	G	A	H	I
R	L	E	L	F	E	D	E	R	A	L
L	A	I	X	D	C	V	B	M	N	I
I	I	D	T	R	W	E	W	I	Q	T
N	R	L	Y	I	U	A	O	S	P	A
G	O	O	V	C	X	Z	R	T	K	R
T	M	S	A	S	D	F	G	I	M	Y
O	E	Q	W	E	R	T	Y	C	N	B
N	M	S	N	A	R	E	T	E	V	V
E	C	N	A	R	B	M	E	M	E	R

World War I  
Armistice  
Veterans  
Arlington  
Federal

Military  
Memorial  
American  
Soldiers  
Remembrance

Help children remember which  
holiday is when with this simple trick:



**N**

**O**

**V**

**E**

**T**

**E**

**R**

**A**

**N**

**S'**

**D**

**A**

**Y**

**E**

**M**

**B**

**E**

**R**

**M**

**E**

**M**

**O**

**R**

**I**

**A**

**L**

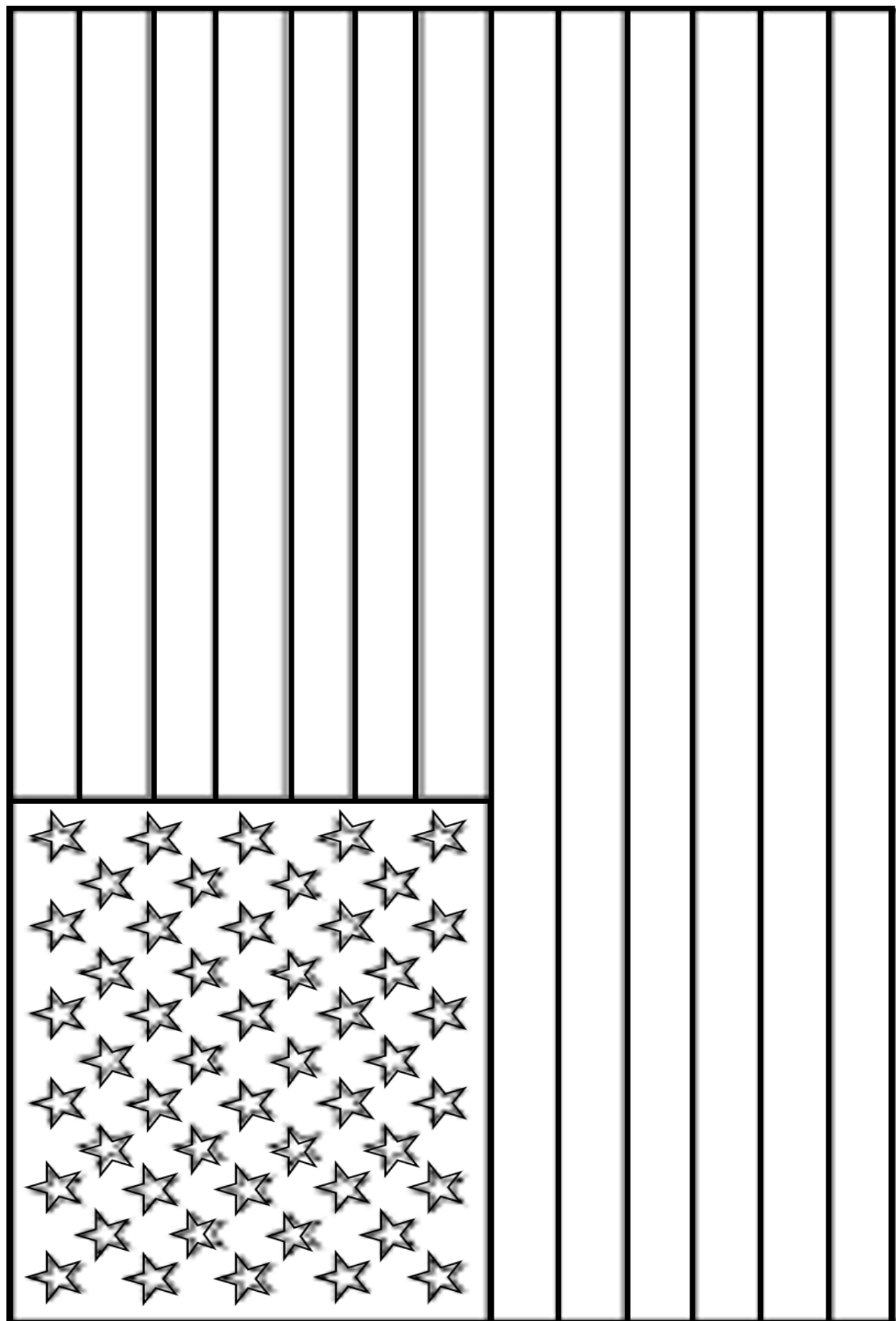
**D**

**A**

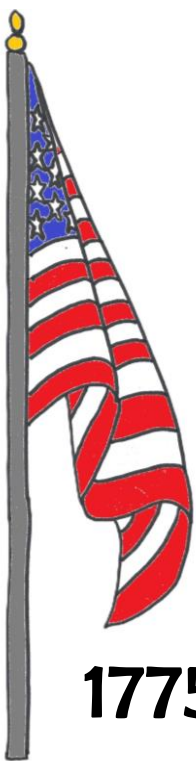
**Y**

**A**

**Y**



# List of American Wars



<b>1775-1783</b>	<b>American Revolution</b>
<b>1812-1815</b>	<b>War of 1812</b>
<b>1816-1848</b>	<b>Mexican-American War</b>
<b>1861-1865</b>	<b>Civil War</b>
<b>1898</b>	<b>Spanish-American War</b>
<b>1917-1918</b>	<b>World War I</b>
<b>1941-1945</b>	<b>World War II</b>
<b>1950-1953</b>	<b>Korean War</b>
<b>1965-1975</b>	<b>Vietnam War</b>
<b>1990-1991</b>	<b>Gulf War</b>
<b>2001-2021</b>	<b>Afghanistan-Iraq War</b>



# Interview with a Veteran



Name of Veteran: \_\_\_\_\_

Branch of Military: \_\_\_\_\_

Have you served overseas? \_\_\_\_\_

In which country? \_\_\_\_\_

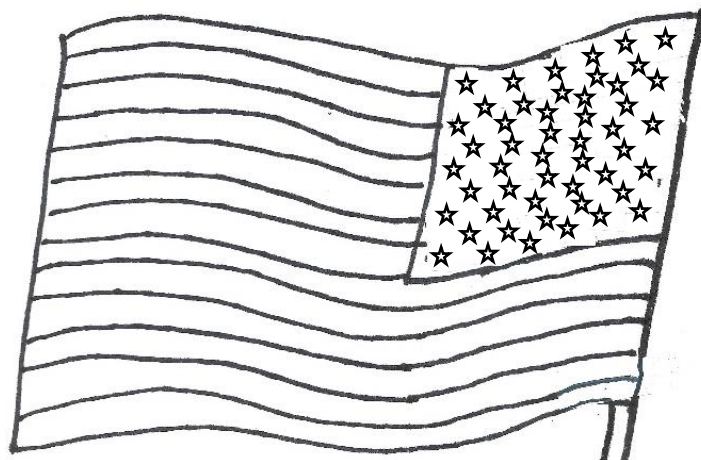
During which years did you serve? \_\_\_\_\_

What made you decide to join the military?

What was your most rewarding experience in the military?

What was the greatest challenge you faced?

Do you have a special story you would like to share?



Happy  
Veterans  
Day!

