# Lesson Plan:

## Honoring Our Heroes: A Veterans Day Wreath

***Ages:*** *5+*
***Duration:*** *45-60 minutes*
***Group size:*** *2-12*

Veterans Day is observed every year on November 11 to honor the men and women who have served in the United States Armed Forces. It is a time to recognize their dedication, courage, and service while teaching younger generations the importance of gratitude and remembrance.

In this activity, students will work together to create a classroom wreath using green handprint leaves and colorful tissue paper poppies. Their finished creation will serve as a reminder to honor and thank those who have served.




## Activity:

Begin with a short discussion about Veterans Day. Explain who veterans are and why we take time each year to recognize and thank those who have served. See the activity introduction on the back for additional background and discussion prompts.

1. Introduce the idea of a remembrance wreath. Explain how wreaths and poppies are used in remembrance traditions to honor those affected by war and military service.
2. Cut a large wreath shape out of folded Bristol paper.
3. Have students paint sheets of fingerpaint paper green. Set aside to dry.
4. Once dry, trace and cut out handprints to use as leaves for the wreath.
5. Assemble the tissue paper poppies using the Remembrance Day Poppies kit. Lightly spray the tissue flowers with water and drape them over an upside-down cup to help shape the petals. Allow them to dry.
6. Glue the handprints around the wreath base, then attach the finished poppies throughout.
7. Display your classroom wreath as a special tribute to those who have served!

## Supplies Needed:

1. Roylco Remembrance Day Poppies (R42005)
2. Bristol Paper
3. Green paint
4. Glue
5. Scissors
6. Pencil or marker
7. Spray bottle filled with water
8. Finger-paint paper

***Darby's Tip:***
Prepare the wreath base ahead of time to make assembly easier!



# Activity & Discussion

## Honoring Our Heroes: A Veterans Day Wreath

Every year on November 11, Americans celebrate Veterans Day. It is a day to recognize and thank the men and women who have served in the United States Armed Forces.

A veteran is someone who has served in the military. Veterans Day gives us a chance to show our appreciation for their service and the sacrifices they have made.

You may have seen wreaths or poppies used at memorials and remembrance ceremonies. These are special symbols that help us remember and honor those affected by war and military service.

Today, we are going to create our own Veterans Day wreath. Each handprint will become a leaf, and colorful tissue paper poppies will bring our wreath to life. Everyone will contribute something special to create a meaningful classroom display.

## Discussion Questions:

1. What is Veterans Day, and why do we celebrate it?
2. What is a veteran?
3. Why is it important to thank those who have served our country?
4. Have you ever seen a wreath or some poppies at a memorial?
5. What are some ways we can show veterans our appreciation?
6. What message would you add to our classroom wreath?

## Keep the Conversation Going!

Once your wreath is complete, invite students to share what they learned about Veterans Day. Discuss how we can show kindness and gratitude to the veterans in our communities.

Display your finished wreath in the classroom or school hallway as a reminder to honor those who have served.

*Need help making your poppies? Watch our step-by-step tutorial on making tissue paper poppies on YouTube.*