



# ARTICLE OF THE WEEK

# INSTRUCTIONS

This flexible resource is intended to provide you with some easy to use, appropriate rights-related learning to share with your children, their families and your colleagues.

Please **edit out non-relevant slides or tasks** before sharing with students. Please check the content works for your learners and feel free to add any content that would make the material more relevant to your setting.

This pack also provides links to learning resources from third parties and from the UK Committee for Unicef (UNICEF UK) that you can access for free.

**Slide 3 – Introducing Remembrance Day**

**Slide 4 – Introducing the Articles**

**Slide 5 – Exploring Article 38 – The big question**

**Slide 6– Exploring Article 38 - Answers**

**Slides 7&8 – Primary Activities**

**Slides 9&10 – Secondary Activities**

**Slide 11 – Reflection**

# INTRODUCING REMEMBRANCE DAY

Jenny introduces Remembrance Day & Article 38



## Remembrance Day is on November 11th

Remembrance Day is on 11 November and marks the day World War One ended, at 11am on the 11th day of the 11th month, in 1918.

It is an opportunity to remember the service and sacrifice of all those that have defended our freedoms and protected our way of life in all conflict and wars.



Click [here](#) to visit the RRSA YouTube Channel



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# LINKED UNCRC ARTICLES



One article provides a particularly strong link this week:

## Article 38 – War and Armed Conflicts

- Governments must **not allow** children under the age of 15 to take part in war or join the armed forces.

Governments must do everything they can to **protect and care** for children affected by war and armed conflicts.

# EXPLORING ARTICLE 38



Why is it important to **remember** and **commemorate** those who have fought in wars?

How does this link to article 38 in the CRC?

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# HOW MANY OF THESE DID YOU GET?

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- It's important to remember and acknowledge and thank those who have fought to keep children safe
- Children have a right to life. During wars, some people lose their own lives to protect the lives of children and it is important to remember their sacrifice
- If we forget about wars that have protected our way of life, we might make the same mistakes again
- Children have a right to be protected during armed conflicts
- Children under 15 should not take part in war
- It is important to think about how we can achieve a more peaceful future
- It is important to consider ways to avoid war and to resolve conflict

**Did you think of anything else?**

# PRIMARY ACTIVITIES

You do not need to complete every activity but if you have time you can try to complete more than one.



Learn about the history of Remembrance Day/WW1 and what it is all about in [this film](#) about pupils perspectives.

What rights are you reminded of?  
What could your class share with the rest of your school?



Poppies are used as symbols during Remembrance Day events. Watch this short CBeebies animation and discuss what the film is about.

Discuss how the rabbit is feeling during the war. If the rabbit was a child, what rights are affected?



Watch *The Poppy Story* (left) by Poppy Scotland or read [The Poppy Story animation](#) and then create an art display of poppies to show your thanks to those who have protected children's rights in war.

Perhaps recycle some old plastic bottles or paper?

Remembrance Day was originally called **Armistice Day** – what does Armistice mean and find out why it was changed?

There is some information [here](#) from the British Legion about **Remembrance Day**.

# PRIMARY ACTIVITIES 2

You do not need to complete every activity but if you have time you can try to complete more than one.



War affects people and communities in different ways. In recent years **different coloured poppies** have been used to represent this.

Find out more about the different colours of poppies used, and add them to your display to show how you **value diversity**.

[Find out more here](#)

The soldiers involved in many wars gone by have come from all different **backgrounds, cultures, nationalities and religions**. Use [these resources](#) from the Black History Month website or [The Black Curriculum](#) (registration required) to find out more.

**Share with your friends the most interesting thing you discover.**

**Do you have any local war memorials? Perhaps you could visit one nearby either with your class or your family. You might be able to find out names of people who died in wars from your local area.**

**See if you can find out any more information about them and what happened. Share this with your class.**

There are many children in the world today who are **affected by war**. War Child is a charity that works to protect the rights of children in five countries where there is conflict. Find out more about their work [here](#).

What could you do to **advocate for the rights** of children affected by war?

# SECONDARY ACTIVITIES

You do not need to complete every activity but if you have time you can try to complete more than one.



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Remembrance Day was originally called Armistice Day - find out why it was changed?

Would you change what happens on Remembrance Day – should it be a day for taking action and not just remembering?

You can find more information [here](#)

UNICEF was created in 1946 to help protect children after World War II. Find out more about UNICEF's history and how we have supported children, including those affected by wars, ever since.

Create your own timeline of interesting facts about Unicef, the Convention and war. These pages might help to start you off [Unicef - history of child rights](#) and [Unicef history](#)

There are many children in the world today who are affected by war. War Child is a charity that works to protect the rights of children in five countries where there is conflict.

Find out more about their work [here](#)

What could you do to advocate for the rights of children affected by war?

UNICEF has many ambassadors helping to **promote and protect** children's rights. Ishmael Beah is one of them.

[Read and watch a short film about his story here](#)

Consider how you could **promote the work that Ishmael is doing** or perhaps **write to him** if you have questions or just want to say thank you.

# SECONDARY ACTIVITIES 2

You do not need to complete every activity but if you have time you can try to complete more than one.



Find out more about the targets of the UN Global Goal 16 (Peace & Justice) [here](#) and discuss in groups how you could contribute to achieving these targets.

Small changes can have big impact - Write an action plan for your group outlining who will do what and when.

UNICEF have said, “Children bear no responsibility for war. But they are the first to suffer its consequences.”

Watch [this hard hitting, animated poem](#), strongly opposing children under 18 being recruited as soldiers.

Look at the questions and other information on the website and have a discussion in class about the issues raised. (We recommend this activity for upper secondary years with staff supervision and support)

Can you write your own poem to express your thoughts, particularly on how children's rights are affected?

This year's [Outright campaign](#) by Unicef UK is focused on youth mental health.

How do you think children's mental health is affected by war?

Consider all the different ways and record these in a mind map. Choose one area to focus on and design a campaign to stop it from happening.

Our [Youth Advocacy Toolkit](#) may be useful for this.

A growing number of children and young people joining schools in the UK are refugees fleeing from countries at war.

How can **schools support** such pupils and help them to feel welcome?

What role can **you as pupils** play in this?

# REFLECTION

Take some time and find some space to be still and to think

Perhaps do your own 2 minutes silence on Remembrance Day

- Think about those who have lost their lives in war and conflict helping to bring freedom and a better life for others
- Think about and appreciate all those people around you who help to keep you safe
- Take some time to think about what peace means to you

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# MORE INFO...

# RRSA WEBSITE



For more information or to download previous Article of the Week packs please visit the RRSA website by clicking the link below

[CLICK HERE](#)

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