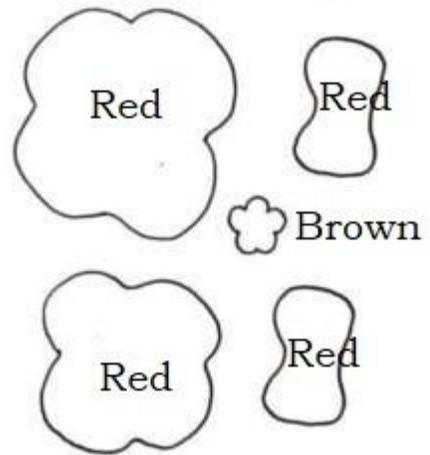


Make a Felt Poppy

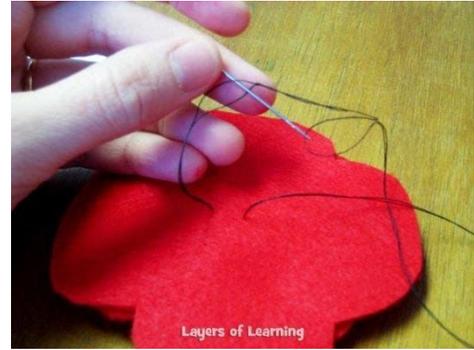


In 1915, John McCrae, a doctor during World War I, led a funeral service for his friend, Alexis Helmer, who died during the war. During the service, McCrae read a poem he had written, called "In Flanders Fields" which talks about the poppy flowers growing around the graves of thousands of soldiers. When World War I ended on November 11, people began celebrating Armistice Day (Veteran's Day) to commemorate the end of the war. Because of the poem, Poppies became a symbol of remembrance for those who died during the war. People made them and wore them on clothing and in their hair. The symbol was revived during World War II.

- Step 1: From your camp kit, get your scissors and the baggie that includes red felt, brown felt, needle, thread, a button and a template.
- Step 2: Cut out the flower petals on the white piece of paper to be used as templates.
- Step: 3: Trace the flower petals onto the felt. Be sure to use the correct color for each piece.
- Step 4: Cut out the petals that you traced on the felt.
- Step: 5: Lay the petals on top of one another from largest to smallest with the smallest on the top.
- Step 6: Place the button over the brown felt.
- Step 7: Thread the needle and tie a knot. NOTE: When you thread the needle, pull the thread through until it is doubled up and then tie a knot in the end.



- Step 8: Stitch the button through all the layers of the felt. Your first stitch comes up from the back through one of the buttonholes, then down through a different button hole. Repeat the process several times until the button is secure and all the layers are stitched together.
- Step 9: Tie it off on the back of the flower by making a small stitch just through the lowest level of fabric and passing your needle through the loop of thread you made. Do this twice, pull tight and trim.
- Step 10: Next make four small slits through the lowest level of fabric only and push your safety pin through the slits. It should hold just fine, but you can add a drop of glue if you feel like you need to.



In Flanders Fields

John McCrae, 1915

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.

