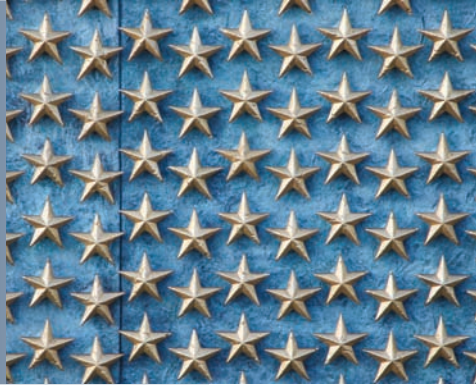


A War Memorial Turns 15



Mini Fact:

The Freedom Wall has 4,048 gold stars. Each star stands for 100 of those who died in the war.



photo by MusikAnimal

Fifteen years ago, a new memorial was dedicated in Washington, D.C. Since then, millions of visitors have walked through the memorial and paid tribute to the men and women who served in World War II, which lasted from 1939 to 1945.

In honor of Memorial Day on May 27, The Mini Page visits the National World War II Memorial.

World War II

The Second World War ended almost 75 years ago. You may have great-grandparents who helped our country fight its way to victory.

Franklin Roosevelt was president during most of World War II. Harry S. Truman took over when Roosevelt died in 1945. He was president when the war ended.

The United States did not enter the war until 1941, when Japan attacked Pearl Harbor in Hawaii, a U.S. base for the Navy. Roosevelt called Dec. 7, 1941, "a date which will live in infamy*," and Congress declared war on Dec. 8.

* **Infamy** (IN-feh-mee) means dishonor.

Americans fought World War II in two main theaters, or regions, which came to be known as the Atlantic and Pacific. More than 30 countries eventually were involved in the war.

The memorial

- The two arches stand for the Atlantic and Pacific regions.

- At the time of World War II, there were 48 states, seven territories and the District of Columbia. The memorial has 56 pillars, each one with the name of the state or territory and bronze oak and wheat wreaths.

- Twenty-four panels made of bronze line the entrance to the memorial. These show scenes from the war, including soldiers getting medical exams and coming home from the war.

- The Rainbow Pool is at the center of the memorial.

- The memorial lies on the National Mall between the Washington Monument and the Lincoln Memorial.



NPS photos by Victoria Stauffenberg

The war effort

Civilians, or people who were not serving in the armed forces, were much more involved in the war effort than people are today. Many families had **victory gardens**, where they grew vegetables to eat so that other food could be sent to the troops.



Kids felt strongly about recycling. Many did their part to help the war effort by collecting scrap materials to be used in making weapons and machines.

In some cities, there were **blackouts** so light would not guide enemy planes or submarines to targets. People would draw heavy blackout shades across their windows at night to keep light inside.

Families were encouraged to read the newspaper and listen to the radio for news of the war. They were discouraged from spreading false rumors.

Rationing

Many items were scarce because they were needed in the war effort or because they had to be shipped to our **allies**, or countries who were fighting on our side.

Rationing, or distributing items equally, was an effort to give everyone a fair share of scarce goods and keep prices low. The rationed items included gas, coffee, sugar, rubber, beef, oils and some canned foods.

Resources



On the Web:

- bit.ly/MPWWIIImem

At the library:

- "Voices From the Second World War: Stories of War as Told to Children of Today" (Candlewick Press)

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Try 'n' Find

Words that remind us of World War II are hidden in this puzzle. Some words are hidden backward, and some letters are used twice. See if you can find:



ALLIES, ARCH, ATLANTIC, BLACKOUT, CIVILIAN, GARDEN, HAWAII, MEMORIAL, NATIONAL, PACIFIC, PEARL, PILLAR, RATION, ROOSEVELT, SERVE, THEATER, TRUMAN, VICTORY, WAR, WASHINGTON, WORLD.

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

Cook's Corner

Baked Apricot Casserole

You'll need:

- 2 (28-ounce) cans apricot halves
- 1 cup light brown sugar
- 4 cups Ritz crackers, crumbled

- 1 stick butter, cut into small pieces



* You'll need an adult's help with this recipe.

What to do:

1. Grease a large casserole dish with butter.
 2. Layer bottom with apricot halves.
 3. Sprinkle on brown sugar, cracker crumbs and butter, in that order.
 4. Repeat layers of apricots and toppings.
 5. Bake in a preheated 300-degree oven for 1 hour until crusty on the top.
- Serves 8.

1. Public celebration along a street; a great show (6-letter noun)

□ □ □ □ □ □

2. Cloth used as a symbol with a design and color (4-letter noun)

□ □ □ □

3. Special clothes worn by a group (ex: Army, Navy, etc.) (7-letter noun)

□ □ □ □ □ □ □

4. Things remembered and kept in your mind (8-letter plural noun)

□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

1. Molly liked the music coming from the _____.
2. Jose drew his _____ in colors of red, white and blue.
3. Soldiers must wear a _____ daily when they serve.
4. Maria has _____ of the happy stories her dad shares.

ROOTONYM®

by Jan & Carey Orr Cook



Study the definition. When you know the missing word, fill in the letter boxes and the sentence blanks.

Answers: Parade, Flag, Uniform, Memories.

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Mini Jokes



Ryan: What are raindrops famous for saying?

Riana: "Two's company, three's a cloud!"

Eco Note



By 2030, there may be 9 billion people on the planet. As numbers rise, more and more land will be needed for farming. Earth has enough fertile land for everyone on the planet, but resources aren't divided equally. The United Nations and other organizations are working to reduce poverty and hunger. Food aid is given to people at risk of starvation, but the real solution is to improve farming in developing countries so people can grow enough food to be able to feed themselves.

adapted with permission from "50 Things You Should Know About the Environment" by Jen Green, © QEB Publishing Inc.

For later:

Look in your newspaper for articles about Memorial Day.

Teachers: For standards-based activities to accompany this feature, visit: bit.ly/MPstandards. And follow The Mini Page on Facebook!



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