Poppy Pin

After World War I, the poppy flower became a symbol to remember servicemen and women killed in conflict. Make a poppy to wear in honor of their ultimate sacrifice.

What you will need:

- Basic supplies: pencil or pen for tracing, scissors, glue
- Red paper, felt, or foam. *The sturdier the better. You can color paper red if needed.*
- Black paper, felt, or foam. *A button or black marker works as well.*
- Pin back.

Make the Poppy

1. Trace this poppy outline onto the red material.
2. Cut the poppy out.
3. Cut a small circle of black material (or skip if using a button).
4. Glue the black circle or button to the center of flower.
5. Glue a pin to the back of the flower.*
6. Once the pin dries, you can wear it.

*No pins at home? Get creative! Attach the flower to string to tie on or to a piece of wire or pipe cleaner to attach to clothing.

Take it Further!

*How did poppies become a symbol?*

In Flanders Fields

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.

Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae wrote this poem in May of 1915 while serving on the front during World War I. The poem inspired Miss Moina Michael of Georgia to wear and sell memorial poppies. She worked tirelessly to raise awareness of both those who had given their life in service to their country and those who returned from war in need of assistance.

In 1920, the American Legion adopted Flanders Field Memorial Poppies as the U.S. National Emblem of Remembrance. Through this organization and others, poppies are now distributed around the country, raising funds for veterans, active-duty military personnel, and their families.