

Forgotten Voices

The First World War in Africa

A classroom resource from the CWGC

Teacher Notes

This teaching resource gives teachers and students the opportunity to diversify their understanding of the First World War by exploring the experience of Africans using stories from the CWGC database and a range of classroom activities.

The aim of the resource is to encourage an understanding that the First World War, was just that; a 'World' War and to explore some of the ideas behind why certain voices have been forgotten over time.

The stories are set within the wider context of the war in Africa and aim to tell the often-forgotten stories of those Africans involved.

Whilst primarily aimed at students aged 10-14, the information could be used with any age group interested in exploring this less well-known aspect of the First World War.

The resource is designed to be used flexibly in a way that best suits your classroom objectives:

- The PowerPoint resource provides a comprehensive lesson with supporting resources which can be delivered in 90 - 120 minutes.
- The individual activities could be delivered individually after the introduction and setting of the context depending on the needs of your curriculum and learning objectives.
- Each slide contains notes on suggested ways to deliver the content and develop the activities.

- The 'Story Cards' contain key facts about the South African Native Labour Corps, King's African Rifles and Sierra Leone Carrier Corps and could also be used as an activity on their own to explore individual stories, for a Black History Month activity, for example.
- The concluding tribute activity asks students to move away from traditional imagery of poppies and crosses and create something respectfully suited to the African context.

This resource has been produced in support of our Non-Commemoration work, a project that has been running since 2020 to rectify historical inequality in commemoration in the past.

For more information about this please use this link: [Non-Commemoration Report: Commemoration Inequalities | CWGC](#)

For more resources to support your teaching of the World Wars, please visit: [World War Resources for Learning: Guides and Research | CWGC](#)

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