On November 11th, Veterans Day—or the last Monday of May, Memorial Day—you might see people wearing pretty red flowers. Those flowers are poppies.

Poppies were given to the dead in ancient Egypt, Greece, and Rome. They represent death and peaceful sleep.

The poppy worn on Veterans and Memorial Day is the red-flowered corn poppy. It was a common flower in Europe during World War I. Poppies are often paired with the words “lest we forget.” When we wear them, we remember the soldiers who died in that and other wars.

3. In your own word or words, what does ancient mean?

__________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________

4. What type of poppy did soldiers in Europe see during WWI?

__________________________________________________________________________________

5. What does the phrase “lest we forget” mean?
   
   a. we should forget it  
   b. poppies are memorable  
   c. it shouldn’t be forgotten

6. What do poppies represent? Why do people wear them?

__________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________
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1. Name one holiday associated with poppies. ____________________________________________________________________________________

2. Which of the following gave poppies to the dead the earliest? 
   a. Europe  
   b. Egypt  
   c. the United States 

3. In your own word or words, what does ancient mean? ____________________________________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________________________________

4. What type of poppy did soldiers in Europe see during WWI? ____________________________________________________________________________________

5. What does the phrase “lest we forget” mean? 
   a. we should forget it  
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   ____________________________________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________________________________

ANSWER KEY

Poppies: Lest We Forget

Poppies represent death and peaceful sleep. People wear them to remember the soldiers who died in WWI and other wars.

Accept either: Veterans Day or Memorial Day

the red-flowered corn poppy

Answers may vary.

Examples are: old // very old // from a long time ago

Preview

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