Name:

Knit Your Bit

Bv Lisa Hart

eather brought hardships to the soldiers of the First World War. The men needed more than the basic clothing they had been issued to endure winter in the trenches. Lucky for them, most of the girls back home knew how to knit.

Knitters of all ages picked up their needles to make

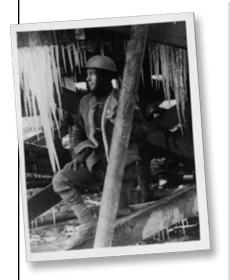




Preview

Please log in to download the printable version of this worksheet.

neipea io provide kniiters wiin yam and patiems. Most of the patiems were simple.



National Library of Scotland

A wintry scene on the
Western Front.

Quick and easy patterns allowed knitters of all skill levels to do their part and knit their bit for the boys at the front. Thousands of hours were given to create millions of pieces of clothing.

One of the more difficult patterns was the one for socks. Novice knitters often found the turning of the heel to be a challenge. But clean socks played a vital role in the good health of the soldiers. An infection called trench foot posed a constant danger in the cold, wet mud of the trenches. Fresh socks offered hope of avoiding an illness that could take a foot or a life.

These hand-knit items inspired the soldiers. They reminded the men of mothers, sisters and sweethearts sending them love with each stitch. For those left on the home front, knitting brought a way to support the troops and be involved.

Knitting never held so much passion or power.

Name:		
Name.		

Knit Your Bit

By Lisa Hart

- 1. Why did women knit clothing for soldiers during World War I?
 - **a.** Soldiers did not have any clothing while at war so they asked women to knit.
 - **b.** Soldiers wanted their clothing to be made only from yarn and wool.
 - c. Soldiers paid women to make clothes and send them to the battlefield.
 - **d.** Soldiers did not have enough winter clothing and women wanted to help.
- 2. According to the article, why were socks difficult for novice knitters?



Preview

Please log in to download the printable version of this worksheet.

4. Circle three words that best describe the women knitters in this article.

patriotic	dangerous	hard-working
curious	charitable	carefree

5. Reread the final sentence of the article

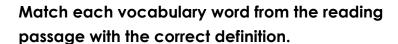
Knitting never held so much passion or power.

Explain how knitting became a passionate and powerful task during this time.

Name: _____

Knit Your Bit

By Lisa Harl





1. trenches

a. material used to cover a wound

____ **2.** troops

b. long holes cut in the ground for hiding and

i. surgically removing an arm, leg, or other



_____ **9.** bandage

Preview

Please log in to download the printable version of this worksheet.

5. novice
6. passion
7. Red Cross
8. home front
9. relating to the treatment of illness and injury
h. person who is new or inexperienced

body part

Name:			
1 101110.			

Knit Your Bit

By Lisa Hart

In the article, "Knit Your Bit," you learned about women who knitted clothing and medical supplies for soldiers during World War I.



Describe ways that citizens of our country can support troops overseas in today's world.



Preview

Please log in to download the printable version of this worksheet.

 	 · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·

ANSWER KEY

Knit Your Bit

By Lisa Hart

- 1. Why did women knit clothing for soldiers during World War I?
 - **a.** Soldiers did not have any clothing while at war so they asked women to knit.
 - **b.** Soldiers wanted their clothing to be made only from yarn and wool.
 - c. Soldiers paid women to make clothes and send them to the battlefield.
 - d. Soldiers did not have enough winter clothing and women wanted to help.
- 2. According to the article, why were socks difficult for novice knitters?





Please log in to download the printable version of this worksheet.

4. Circle three words that best describe the women knitters in this article.



5. Reread the final sentence of the article

Knitting never held so much passion or power.

Explain how knitting became a passionate and powerful task during this time.

Knitting is typically a quiet, mundane task. However, during wartime women

became passionate about it because they were helping soldiers, and they were

powerful because they were helping the war effort.

ANSWER KEY

Knit Your Bit

Bv Lisa Hart

Match each vocabulary word from the reading passage with the correct definition.



- - **1.** trenches

a. material used to cover a wound

e 2. troops

b. long holes cut in the ground for hiding and



Preview

Please log in to download the printable version of this worksheet.

5. novice

e. soldiers

6. passion

f. a charitable organization devoted to helping the sick, wounded, or suffering

f 7. Red Cross

g. relating to the treatment of illness and injury

8. home front

h. person who is new or inexperienced

9. bandage

i. surgically removing an arm, leg, or other body part