World War I Scavenger Hunt Activity



Materials:

- 18 WWI fact cards (pages 2–6)
- WWI questions worksheet (pages 7–8)
- scissors
- scotch tape

Preparation

Print the fact cards and cut them apart.

Make copies of the WWI questions worksheet (2-sided). Each student will need his or her own copy.

Hide the 18 fact cards around your classroom where students will be able to find them.

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After the students have completed the question sheet, you can go over the answers together with the class.

Management tips

You may want to make this a silent activity so students don't share answers with each other.

You can have the kids work by themselves or with partners.

Don't be afraid to hide the facts in tough places. Kids think it's more fun when they have to search around a little.

Examples of good hiding spots might include:

- sticking out of a book, like a bookmark
- the back of the classroom door
- lying flat on the classroom bookshelf
- on the side of the bookshelf
- on the back of the teacher's chair

Have a plan for students who finish early. You may want to have an assignment for them to complete when they're done, or you may have them help other students find fact cards.

Scavenger Hunt

World War I

Fact Card **1**



Archduke Franz Ferdinand was assassinated on June 28, 1914 by a Serbian nationalist. The archduke was the heir to the Austria-Hungary throne. His assassination caused Austria-Hungary to declare war on

Scavenger Hunt

World War I

Fact Card **2**



Serbia had an alliance with Russia while Austria-Hungary had an alliance with Germany. After Russia and France ordered a mobilization of troops, Germany told them to halt it (which they ignored).

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World War I 3

World War I 4



On August 4, 1914, Germany invaded Belgium. Great Britain declared war against Germany because they were committed to defending Belgium. World War I, called the Great War at the time, had begun.



After creating alliances, World War I had two main factions.

The Central Powers consisted of Austria-Hungary, Germany, Bulgaria, and the Ottoman Empire.

The Allies consisted of Serbia, Russia, France, Great Britain, Italy, Japan, and later the United States.

Scavenger Hunt

World War I

Fact Card **5**



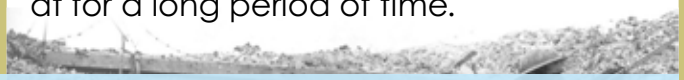
The outbreak of war in August of 1914 created an exciting feeling throughout Europe. People felt a great sense of nationalism (a deep feeling of patriotism for their country). They were confident in their

Scavenger Hunt

World War I

Fact Card **6**

Many battles fought on land in World War I were in trenches. Soldiers dug trenches into the ground and used barbed wire to protect them. The trenches were muddy, constantly damp, and filled with garbage and dead bodies. Men fought, ate, and slept in trenches while constantly being shot at for a long period of time.



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World War I 7

When battling, soldiers would climb over their own trenches, go into a flat area called no man's land while being shot at, and try to breach their enemies' trenches to kill them. This war tactic led to mass casualties.



World War I 8



Diseases spread quickly in the trenches. Constant exposure to wetness in the muck caused trench foot. This causes the tissues on your feet to die and sometimes requires amputation. Unsanitary conditions led to the spread of dysentery, cholera, and typhoid fever.

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World War I

Fact Card **9**



Machine guns were a new but deadly weapon in WWI. By the end of the war,

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World War I

Fact Card **10**



On Christmas Eve in 1914, some soldiers on the Western Front called an unofficial Christmas Truce. Soldiers on both sides

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World War I **11**



Chemical warfare was another tactic of war. It is estimated there were about 90,000 fatalities and 1.3 million casualties due to poisonous gases. The most used gas was mustard gas. This caused chemical burns on contact. Soldiers wore gas masks to protect their lungs and skin.

World War I **12**



On May 7, 1915, a German U-boat (submarine) sank the British ocean liner *Lusitania*. She was on her way to New York and carried nearly 2,000 civilian passengers (including U.S. citizens). Americans were outraged and it was expected they would enter the war. But, the U.S. remained neutral.

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World War I

Fact Card 13



Since millions of men were at war, there were fewer workers on the homefront. Millions of women stepped up and began to do "men's work." In 1915, women began working in manufacturing and agriculture,

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World War I

Fact Card 14

Naval battles and submarine warfare coincided with trench warfare. The Battle of Jutland in 1916 caused about 6,200 British deaths and 2,500 German deaths. However, Britain was able to blockade German ports. This became pivotal to winning the war.

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World War I 15

World War I 16



The newly invented tank was also used in battle. However, they were slow and unreliable. The Mark 1 was the first official tank to go into battle in 1916. Germany lagged behind Great Britain and France in their manufacturing of tanks.

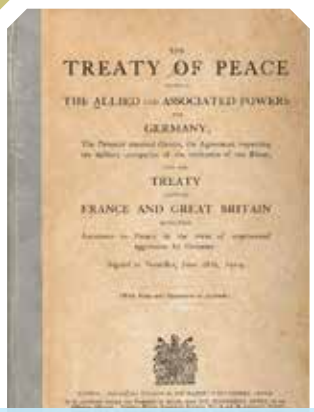


On April 2, 1917, President Woodrow Wilson asked Congress to declare war against Germany for their unrestricted submarine warfare and for trying to get Mexico to join them. The United States joined the Allies, started drafting male citizens (a lottery system for choosing who must join the military), and sent troops overseas.

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World War I

Fact Card
17



The United States entering the war tipped the scales for the Allies. On November 11, 1918, the Great War ended with Germany signing an armistice agreement with the Allies. Later, in 1919, the peace

Scavenger Hunt

World War I

Fact Card
18



It is estimated that 16.5 million people (civilians and military personnel) died in WWI. This was due to advancements in technology like poisonous gases, submarines, and machine guns, battle strategies; and the 1918

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Name: _____

Side A

World War I Scavenger Hunt

Fact Card 1: Who was assassinated on June 28, 1914?

_____

Fact Card 2: What countries helped Serbia in the beginning of the war?

_____

Fact Card 3: Why did Great Britain get involved in the war?

_____

_____

F

_____

F

_____

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Fact Card 6: What material was used to protect trenches?

_____

Fact Card 7: What is the flat area between two enemy trenches called?

_____

Fact Card 8: Why did soldiers get trench foot?

_____

Fact Card 9: How many rounds could a machine gun fire per minute?

_____

World War I Scavenger Hunt

Fact Card 10: What happened on Christmas Eve in 1914?

Fact Card 11: What did soldiers wear to protect themselves from poisonous gases in the air?

Fact Card 12: What was the name of the British ocean liner that was sunk on May 7, 1915?

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Fact Card 15: What was the name of the first tank to go into battle?

Fact Card 16: Who was president of the United States when the United States entered World War I?

Fact Card 17: When did the Great War end?

Fact Card 18: About how many people died in WWI?

Side A

World War I Scavenger Hunt

Fact Card 1: Who was assassinated on June 28, 1914?

Archduke Franz Ferdinand

Fact Card 2: What countries helped Serbia in the beginning of the war?

Russia and France

Fact Card 3: Why did Gr[illegible] in [illegible]?

Great [illegible] committed to defending Belg[illegible] Germany invaded.

F[illegible]

F[illegible]

[illegible]ng of patriotism for a country

Fact Card 6: What [illegible]s used to protect trenches?

barbed [illegible]

Fact Card 7: What is the flat ar[illegible] called?

no man's land

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Fact Card 8: Why did soldiers get trench foot?

They were constantly exposed to wetness in the trenches.

Fact Card 9: How many rounds could a machine gun fire per minute?

450–600 rounds

ANSWER KEY

Side B

World War I Scavenger Hunt

Fact Card 10: What happened on Christmas Eve in 1914?

Soldiers called a truce, sang, and met in no man's land.

Fact Card 11: What did soldiers wear to protect themselves from poisonous gases in the air?

gas masks

Fact Card 12: What was the name of the British ocean liner that was sunk on May 7, 1915?

Lusitania

Fact Card 13: [illegible]

Fact Card 14: [illegible]

Fact Card 15: What was the name of the first tank to go into battle?

Mark 1

Fact Card 16: Who was president of the United States when the United States entered World War I?

President Woodrow Wilson

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Fact Card 17: When did the Great War end?

November 11, 1918

Fact Card 18: About how many people died in WWI?

16.5 million