

# Veterans Honor Park - High School

## Branches of the Military: Role in 20th and 21st Century Conflicts

<p><b>Established Goal</b></p> <p>To honor, remember and recognize members of the United States armed forces for their vital role in the preservation of freedom throughout history.</p>	<p><b>Transfer Goal</b></p> <p>High-school students who visit the Veterans Honor Park will bring family and friends to the Honor Park AND be able to explain why veterans of the United States armed forces— past, present and future— should be honored through acknowledgement of the sacrifices made, sense of duty and courage they have displayed in service to our country.</p>
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### MEANING

<p><b>Enduring Understandings</b></p> <p>Participants will understand that...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Members of the United States armed forces play a vital role in the preservation of our freedom.</li> <li>● Citizens of the U.S. owe a debt of gratitude to the soldiers who have paid the ultimate price for our freedom, as well as for those who are able to return from the battlefield unscathed.</li> <li>● Without the brave efforts of the U.S. Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, Air Force and Merchant Marines, this nation, along with our allies around the world, would not stand so boldly, shine so brightly and live so freely.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Essential Questions</b></p> <p>Participants will consider...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● What is the role of the United States armed forces in preserving our freedom?</li> <li>● Why should we honor members of the United States armed forces?</li> <li>● To what extent can places like the Veterans Honor Park demonstrate our appreciation for our veterans?</li> </ul> <p><b>Topical Questions - High School</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● What role did each branch of the military play in 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>-century conflicts?</li> <li>● How has the role of the branch changed over time?</li> <li>● To what extent are the branches similar? Different?</li> </ul>
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### ACQUISITION

<p><b>Knowledge</b></p> <p>Participants will know...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● the branches of the armed services</li> <li>● the role each branch of the armed services played in 20th and 21st century conflicts</li> <li>● the contributions of those who served from the St. Louis area in 20th and/or 21st century conflicts</li> </ul>	<p><b>Skills</b></p> <p>Participants will be skilled at...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Researching a branch of the military over time</li> <li>● Explaining how the role of a branch of the military has changed over time</li> <li>● Making a local connection to global events</li> <li>● Presenting information on a topic to a wider audience</li> </ul>
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## EVIDENCE

Evaluative Criteria	Assessment Evidence
	<p><b>Transfer Task</b> Students will present their research to an audience outside of the classroom at the Veterans Honor Park.</p>
	<p><b>Other Evidence</b> Participation in class discussions on the topic. Writing for understanding activities.</p>

## LEARNING PLAN

### Learning Activities

#### **Prior to Visiting the Honor Park**

Contact the Veterans Honor Park Committee to let them know when you will be at the Honor Park to schedule the visit and invite interested veterans to attend. <https://vhp.chesterfield.mo.us/>

#### *Objective:*

The purpose of this lesson is to have students investigate the role of a particular branch of the service in 20th and 21st century conflicts. Students will be able to explain the role the branch of service played in at least four conflicts AND explain how the branch of the military they are investigating changed over time.

*Time:* Two 45-minute class periods

#### *Topical Question:*

- What role did each branch of the military play in 20th and 21st century conflicts?
- How has the role of the branch changed over time?
- To what extent are the branches similar? Different?

#### *Materials Required:*

- Access to the Internet
- Access to print resources

#### *Procedures:*

1. Project the image of the Veterans Honor Park <https://vhp.chesterfield.mo.us/>
  - a. Have the students examine the image ask the following questions
    - What do you see?
    - What might be happening here?
    - Why do we have parks and memorials?
    - Why is it important to honor our Veterans?
  
2. Explain the history of the Veterans Honor Park and tell the students that the class will be visiting the Honor Park to help them learn more about our armed services and the role of people from the area in preserving their freedom. <https://vhp.chesterfield.mo.us/design-vision.html>
  - Ask the students if any of them had the opportunity to visit the Veterans Honor Park?
  - If yes, ask them to explain what they learned.

3. Explain to the students that they will be working in teams to research one branch of the military and its role in 20th and 21st century conflicts.
  - What was their role in each conflict (min. of four)
  - How did their role stay the same in each conflict? How did it change over time?
4. Explain that they will be presenting their learning at the Honor Park in front of the flag of their branch of service. They will not be using PowerPoint or other presentation tool as the presentation is outside. They may think of other ways to incorporate the technology on their phone...e.g. playing the song associated with their branch of service during the presentation.
  - Each student will invite at least two people to attend the presentation. Discuss how to send the invitation and the details for the day of the event.
  - A student may invite more than two people.
5. Have a sign-up sheet for each branch of service highlighted at the Honor Park (Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Merchant Marines and Coast Guard). Students will sign up for the branch they are most interested in researching.
6. Each presentation will be limited to 15 minutes.
7. Students will have two class periods to research and plan/practice presentation.

#### **At the Honor Park**

1. Students will have the opportunity to explore the Honor Park.
  - a. Utilizing a class generated hashtag each student is responsible for taking one photo and Tweeting about it utilizing the hashtag and the school's Twitter @
  - b. Focus of the Tweet EQ: To what extent can places like the Veterans Honor Park demonstrate our appreciation for our veterans?
2. Student Presentation
  - a. Each student team will tell the story of their branch of the service's role in 20th and 21st century conflicts.
  - b. Each team member will take part in the presentation.
  - c. Students will take notes to make connections with their branch of service and the other branches of service on the final classroom writing assignment.

#### **After Visiting the Honor Park**

1. Students will write a blog post for the classroom blog describing their learning at the Honor Park and in the classroom.
2. The link is to [Blogging Guidelines](http://biologyblog.edublogs.org/about/). Blogging guidelines were copied from <http://biologyblog.edublogs.org/about/> as an example for establishing classroom blogging guidelines. If you use these guidelines - please give credit to the source)
3. The blog post needs to focus on the Essential or Topical Questions.

#### **Essential Questions**

- What is the role of the United States armed forces in preserving our freedom?
- Why should we honor members of the United States armed forces?
- To what extent can places like the Veterans Honor Park demonstrate our appreciation for our veterans?

#### **Topical Questions**

- What role did each branch of the military play in 20th and 21st century conflicts?
- How has the role of the branch changed over time?
- To what extent are the branches similar? Different?

**Extending the Learning**

Students visit the Veterans History Project <http://www.loc.gov/vets/> website and interview a veteran from the area for inclusion in the project. Instructions for conducting interviews can be found on the link.