

Veterans Honor Park - Elementary Branches of the Military

<p>Established Goal 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>Transfer Goal Elementary 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>Enduring Understandings Participants will understand that...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Members of the United States armed forces play a vital role in the preservation of our freedom. ● 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. ● 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. 	<p>Essential Questions Participants will consider...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 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? <p>Topical Questions - Elementary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● What are the similarities in the branches of the armed services? ● What makes each branch of the armed service unique? ● What are the values of the branches of the armed services? ● How can you apply the values of the armed service to your life?
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ACQUISITION

<p>Knowledge Participants will know...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● the branches of the armed services ● the values of each branch of the armed services ● the history of the armed services ● the history of the armed services from the perspective of those who served from the St. Louis area 	<p>Skills Participants will be skilled at...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● comparing and contrasting the responsibilities of the various branches of the United States military ● identifying the specific ways in which the branches of U.S. military have changed over time ● explaining the values of the armed services ● applying the values of the armed services to their own life.
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EVIDENCE

Evaluative Criteria	Assessment Evidence
	<p>Transfer Task Students will create a public service announcement explaining how members of the armed services protect our freedom.</p>
	<p>Other Evidence Digital poster on motto/flag Writing for understanding assignments</p>

LEARNING PLAN

Learning Activities

Prior to visiting the Honor Park

Contact the Veterans Honor Park Committee to determine if a veteran can meet your students at the Honor Park. <https://vhp.chesterfield.mo.us/>

Objective:

The purpose of this lesson is to introduce students to the branches of the armed services by analyzing the motto of each branch. Students will determine the similarities and differences of the values in each branch and apply them to their personal values.

Time: Two 30-minute class periods

Topical Question:

- What are the values of the branches of the armed services?
- How can you apply the values of the armed service to your life?

Materials Required:

- Access to the internet
- Print resources
- Art supplies

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 students they will be visiting the park to learn more about our armed services and the role of local people in preserving their freedom. <https://vhp.chesterfield.mo.us/design-vision.html>

3. Tell students they will be working in teams to learn about the branches of the armed services. They will be sharing their learning with their classmates. The teams will be in class and at the Honor Park.

Option 1

- a. Prior to class, make cards with the name of each branch of the armed services (Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard and Merchant Marines). Make the teams equal with no more than four members per team.
- b. Have the students draw a card for their team assignment.

Option 2

- a. Pre-assign mixed ability groups
- b. Put groups on board or SMART Board

4. Each team will find the motto and the flag for their assigned branch of the armed services.

Team Roles

- a. Review the roles of each team member
- b. Distribute roles or have students select roles
- c. If you have more than 20 students add POW/MIA to the group

5. Students record their learning in a collaborative learning space (e.g. Padlet or easel.ly)

Motto

- a. What is the motto?
- b. What does it mean?
- c. What value(s) are represented in the motto?

Flag

- a. What are the items on the flag?
- b. What does each item symbolize?
- c. Does the flag have a message? What is it? What does it mean?
- d. What value(s) are represented by the symbols on the flag?

Summary

- a. What did you learn about your branch of the armed services based on the motto and the symbol?

6. Teams present the motto, flag and summary to the class

- a. Students listen and take notes on the value(s) represented by the motto and the flag.
- b. Students get in mixed teams (one branch of the service in each team (jigsaw)
 1. Determine similarities
 2. Determine difference
 3. Share out to class

7. Writing for Understanding - Students will write a paragraph describing one value highlighted by a branch of the military they believe is important for everyone to have and explain why.

8. K-W-L (Know - Want to Know- Learned)

- a. Each student will create a personal K-W-L on their Branch of the Service (10 Minutes)
 1. Electronic KWL Creator
http://www.readwritethink.org/files/resources/interactives/kwl_creator/
 2. PDF KWL Printed
<http://www.readwritethink.org/files/resources/printouts/KWL%20Chart.pdf>

- b. Students will create a team K-W-L they will bring to the Honor Park
 1. Share their knowledge (Merry-Go-Round Strategy) K
 2. Share “Want to Know” - Team will create 5 - 10 research questions for the Honor Park.
 3. Each member has the questions to bring to the Honor Park
- c. Time permitting - each group will share one question they will be researching at the park.

At the Honor Park

1. Allow the students 45 minutes to explore the Veterans Honor Park
 - Locate symbols
 - Sketch the park
 - Favorite part of the park
 - Was the value they identified present in the Honor Park? If so, how?
 - How does the park honor veterans?
2. Sit on the benches around the flags and have each student share something from their 45 minutes of exploration.
3. Have the students get into their branch of service group. Utilizing the mobile app resources, students will access information on their branch of the service.
4. Students will answer the 5 - 10 questions on their K-W-L completing the “L.”
5. Students will generate 3-5 questions they would ask a veteran from the branch of service they researched (discuss what would be inappropriate questions and why)

NOTE: If a team finishes early you can provide them with additional items to research:

- Date of origination
 - Purpose of branch at its beginning
 - Purpose of that branch today
 - Location and nature of its academy education for officers
 - Types of training offered to enlistees
 - Conflicts/wars in which it has participated
 - Slogan, emblem, and song/chant
 - Best known historical and recent members of that branch
6. Veteran at the Honor Park, OR students share one question they would ask and why.
 7. On a notecard respond to one of the following essential questions (glue the questions to the note card or print on cardstock— students can respond on the back of the card)
 - 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?

After Visiting the Honor Park

Student groups will share their findings with the class.

- Teams will create a graphic organizer comparing and contrasting the branches of service
- Teams will create a public service announcement or a newspaper article utilizing their research to answer the Essential Question: What is the role of the United States Armed Forces in preserving our freedom?

Tech Integration Resources

Newspaper Article Generator <http://www.fodey.com/generators/newspaper/snippet.asp>

Using Movie Maker to Make a PSA

http://www.readwritethink.org/files/resources/lesson_images/lesson1069/using.pdf

PSA with Storyboard <http://www.storyboardthat.com/storyboards/tag/psa>

Extending the Learning

A Service Project for Those Who Serve(d)

- Contact the U.S.O. (or other agency) to determine what items are needed.
- Organize a collection drive for the U.S.O. (or other agency).
- Learn about the role of the Merchant Marines, who have now been granted veteran status and receive benefits and military burials.