

Memory box

History/literacy/art and design

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- To deepen understanding of fictional characters
- To develop empathy for fictional characters
- To explore characterization using objects

SKILLS TARGETED

- Imaginative characterization
- List making and reasoning
- Model making.

RESOURCES

- Photos from 1914-1918 (in peacetime and in the war) available from Google Images and the *War Horse* website
- Old boxes or tins (eg shoe boxes “distressed” or roughed-up to look old)
- A copy of the picture book *Wilfrid Gordon McDonald Partridge* by Mem Fox – or the audio version on You tube. (This book is aimed at infants but is a good starting point for discussion about important objects)
- Post It notes

SUGGESTED TIME SCALE

- 1-2 sessions for Steps 1-4
- 1-2 additional sessions for Step 5

Step 1

Read or watch *Wilfrid Gordon McDonald Partridge*

Step 2

Discuss the kind of objects we keep to remind us of good times, places, people, etc. Ask the class what kind of mementoes a soldier like Albert in *War Horse* might take to the war with him – and why? These are going to go into the Memory Boxes

Step 3

List all the suggestions on post it notes

Step 4

Collect all the post it notes and put them into the memory boxes.

ADDITIONAL EXERCISE

Step 5

Use junk modelling materials, plasticine and paper to make all the objects and turn them into a display inside the memory boxes

SUCCESS CRITERIA

- Children will imagine a range of objects that soldiers might take to war, and why those objects are important to each soldier
- They will write the stories or reasons for the objects' inclusion
- They will create 3D versions of the objects

