

HISTORY OF MEMORIAL DAY

READING COMPREHENSION & DIGITAL GAME

The History of Memorial Day

Questions	Answers
1 On which day of the week does Memorial Day take place?	
2 Memorial Day officially became a federal holiday in the year ____.	
3 What was the original name for Memorial Day?	
4 In 1865, one of the earliest known Memorial Day ceremonies took place in which state? Spell out the name of the state!	
5 Which is NOT a common Memorial Day tradition? Type the correct letter. A. Parades B. Grave decoration C. Talent shows D. Family gatherings	
6 In modern times, Memorial Day is often seen as the unofficial start of _____.	
7 A national moment of _____ occurs at 3pm local time on Memorial Day.	
8 What trait is symbolized by moving the flag from half-staff to full-staff?	
9 TRUE OR FALSE (Type T or F into the answer box): Memorial Day celebrates all military veterans, while Veterans Day honors the memory of those who died while serving.	
10 Veterans Day takes place on which month/day? Type your answer in the form of MM/DD. Ex. December 13th would be 12/13.	
11 By participating in Memorial Day traditions, Americans show their _____ for the sacrifices made by military personnel.	
12 Which option BEST describes the purpose of this article? Type the correct letter. A. Persuade B. Inform C. Entertain	

What was the calendar's favorite fruit?

Answer:

Directions: Click [here](#) to read the passage. Then, read each question and type your answer into the box. If correct, your answer box will turn green and a piece of the decoder image will be revealed. If incorrect, the box will turn red. After all 12 questions are answered correctly, use the decoder picture to solve the riddle. Be sure to check your spelling!

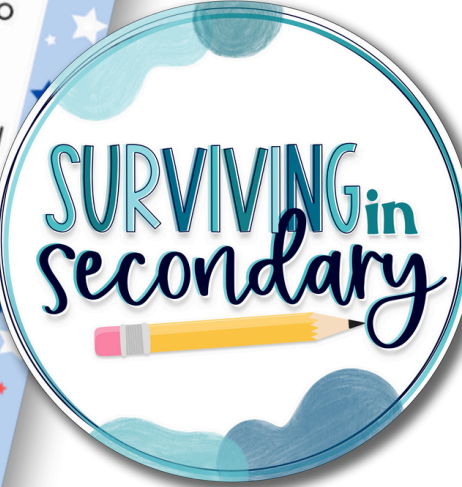


The History of Memorial Day

Memorial Day, a holiday observed in the United States on the last Monday in May, is dedicated to honoring those who have died while serving in the U.S. military. The origins of Memorial Day date back the Civil War, as many communities began to honor fallen soldiers by decorating their graves with flowers and holding ceremonies. Originally called Decoration Day, the holiday was renamed Memorial Day and became an official federal holiday in 1971.

The earliest Memorial Day ceremonies took place in Charleston, South Carolina, in 1865. Freed African Americans organized a tribute to Union soldiers who had been held as prisoners of war by the Confederacy. This early event was the foundation for what would become a widespread tradition. By the late 19th century, Memorial Day was being celebrated across the country on May 30th, with traditions such as parades, speeches, and grave decoration, which are still central to the holiday.

Today, Memorial Day is often marked by barbecues, family gatherings, and festivals, as it unofficially signals the start of summer. Despite these festive activities, Memorial Day maintains its solemn purpose through ceremonies at cemeteries and national moments of remembrance. Many people observe a national moment of silence. Another tradition is flying the American flag at half-staff until noon and then raising it to full-staff for the rest of the day to symbolize the nation's respect for those who have died in service to the country. In contrast to Veterans Day, which is observed on November 11, Memorial Day is dedicated to remembering and mourning those who have died in service to the country. In contrast to Veterans Day, which is observed on November 11, Memorial Day is dedicated to remembering and mourning those who have died in service to the country.



WHY WILL YOU (AND YOUR STUDENTS) FALL IN LOVE WITH THIS RESOURCE?

- ✓ No-prep
- ✓ Sub plan-ready
- ✓ Self-grading and time-saving
- ✓ Motivating and engaging

Answer key
included!

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Which day of the week does Memorial Day take place?	
Memorial Day officially became a federal holiday in the year ____.	
What was the original name for Memorial Day?	
In 1868, one of the earliest known Memorial Day ceremonies took place in which state? Put the name of the state!	
Which is NOT a common Memorial Day tradition? Type the correct letter. A. Parades B. Grave decoration C. Talent shows D. Family gatherings	
In modern times, Memorial Day is often seen as the unofficial start of ____.	
What national moment of ____ occurs at 3pm local time on Memorial Day.	
What trait is symbolized by moving the flag from half-staff to full-staff?	
TRUE OR FALSE (Type T or F into the answer box): Memorial Day celebrates all military veterans, while Veterans Day honors the memory of those who died while serving.	
Memorial Day takes place on which month/day? Type your answer in the form of MM/DD. Ex. December 13th would be 12/13.	
When participating in Memorial Day traditions, Americans show their ____ for the sacrifices made by military personnel.	
Which option BEST describes the purpose of this article? Type the correct letter. A. Persuade B. Inform C. Entertain	

What was the calendar's favorite fruit? Answer:

14-22-16-20-24



PLEASE NOTE: Google Sheets REQUIRED

