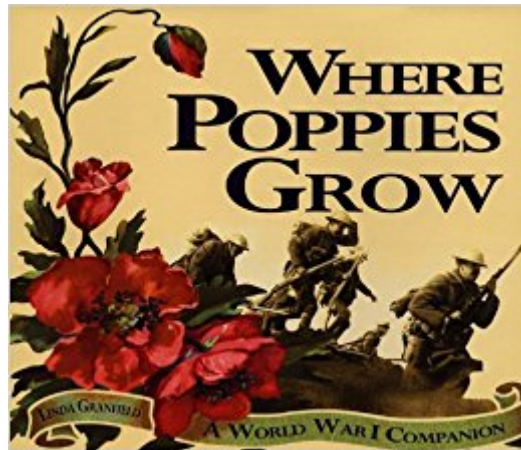




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Where Poppies Grow: A World War I Companion



Synopsis

Finalist for the Silver Birch Award Winner of the 2002 Information Book Award When World War I began in 1914, no one knew that millions of young people would die in the agonizing years ahead. No one imagined the effect it would have on family life, or that whole villages would disappear, or that entire nations would be changed forever. They believed their sons and daughters, mothers and fathers would be home by Christmas. They were tragically mistaken. With photos, memorabilia, and anecdotes, Linda Granfield brings us face-to-face with people from all walks of life who risked everything for their country. These painstakingly-gathered bits and pieces are remnants of conflict on a scale never before witnessed. Hastily-penned letters, notes written in code, and prayers for deliverance form an eloquent portrait of humanity, and a startling comment on the devastation of war.

Book Information

Paperback: 32 pages

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Age Range: 11 - 14 years

Grade Level: 5 - 9

Customer Reviews

Where Poppies Grow: A World War I Companion by Linda Granfield illustrates the tragic era in scrapbook style. Throughout, vintage postcards (written by soldiers to their loved ones at home), photographs and memorabilia such as propaganda posters, books and "Infantry Training" cards that were inserted in cigarette packs share space with accessible and informative text. The title references a line from "In Flanders Fields," which Granfield calls "the most popular poem of the

Great War."Copyright 2002 Cahners Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Grade 4-7 A haunting, moving scrapbook of the Great War from a Canadian point of view. Each spread covers a topic such as trench warfare, daily life, or patriotism. The book is filled with black-and-white and color period photographs, pages from training manuals, ads, postcards, cartoons, paintings, propaganda, etc. Two sections offer personal information on soldiers-one who returned to Canada a broken man and one who didn't make it home. While there are better sources for report writers, this book will invite serious students and browsers alike; the horrors of the war are fully realized here. A compelling portfolio. -Anne Chapman Callaghan, Racine Public Library, WI
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'Where Poppies Grow' provides 48 pages of primary source material with explanation and commentary alongside it. It's written in a sort of scrapbook style. You find vignettes about the stille nacht Christmas episode; a two page biographical sketch of a soldier's wartime exposure to mustard gas; handwritten letters from soldiers to their mothers; pictures of soldiers on parade; a piece of French propaganda; the story of the poem that inspired the book's title; and more. My 4 children aged 4-11 have all poured over this book. Comments range from 4 yr old's "dat's War Horse!!" and "look, a tank from war horse!" to 11 yr old's "why is this book called 'Where Poppies Grow'?" (Me: "that was a popular poem. Did you find it? Her: begins to flip through the book in search of it) Find an index at the end. 5 stars for this great glimpse into a wide variety of WWI details.

This book contains copies of original documents from WWI - for example, scribbled letters soldiers sent home to say 'all is fine', along with explanations that give background to those documents - in the letter example, the book describes how little soldiers were able to put into a letter, but how their brevity didn't detract from the relief their families received from them. It doesn't shy away from the nasty aspects, but doesn't dwell or go into graphic detail. It was a horrible war and you can see that in the photos and writing, but this won't give a child nightmares.

This was a neat book that we used for homeschooling. It has lots of photos which help explain what the war really looked like, with photos of trenches, soldiers, letters, products, etc.

I was pleasantly surprised how helpful this book was to use in teaching our children about WW1.

This book was a good way to simply recap some of the facts we had been studying in our history unit on The Great War. The illustrations were wonderful.

love it

Great!

Great reading.

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