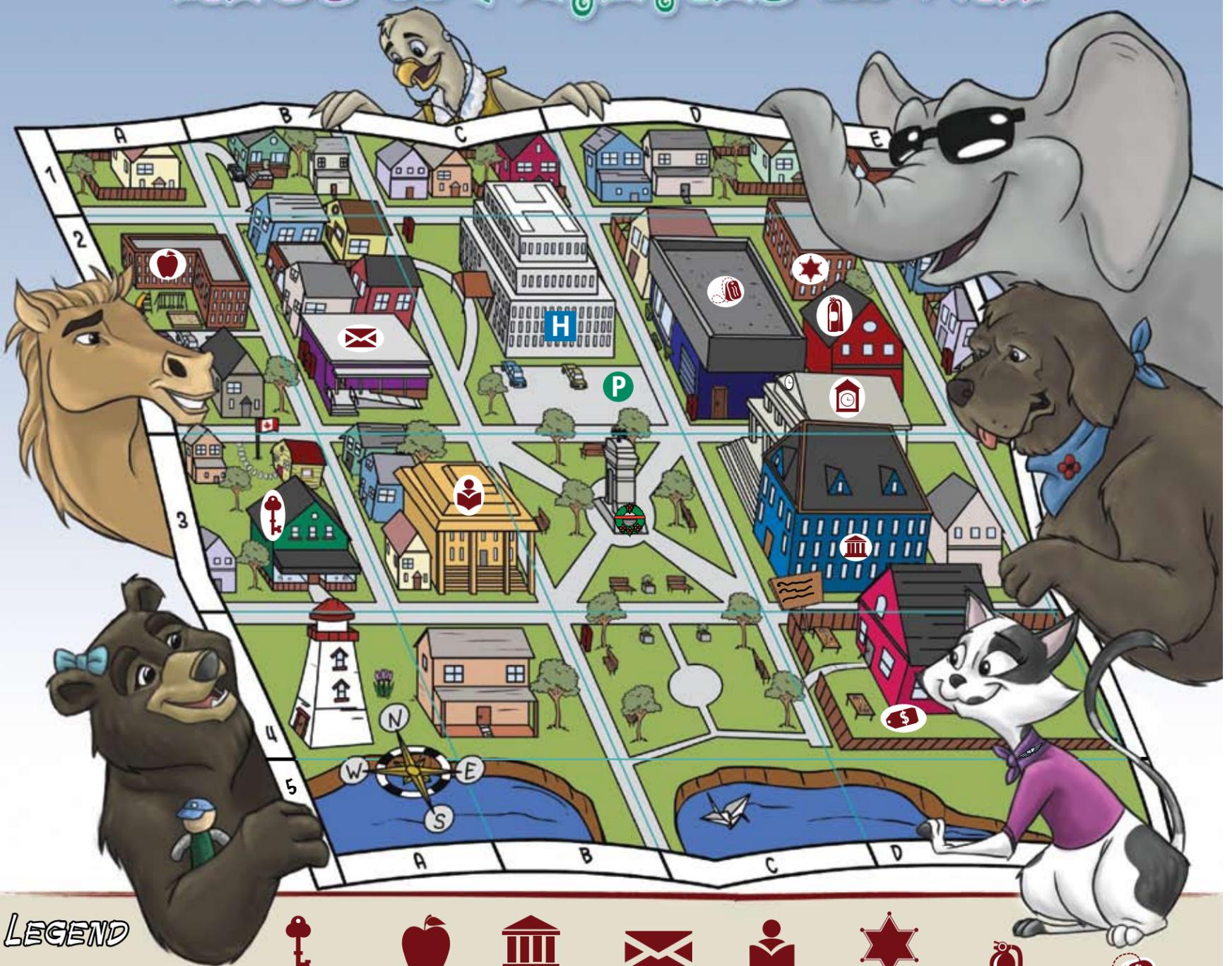




Tales of Animals in War



LEGEND



TOWN TREASURES

The Remembrance Clubhouse animals meet early one Saturday morning. They want to find out about the people in their hometown who have protected peace and freedom. Where in the world did they go? What did they see and do? The animals have lots of questions and they'd like to find some answers.

The Clubhouse animals decide to comb their town to find whatever they can that tells a story about the town's Veterans, those men and women who have gone to war or have worked for world peace. A town map will help them get started.

On the map, the animals see many buildings. There is the town hall, the police station, the hospital, the school, the community hall, the post office...

"Hey, everybody," says Bonfire Jr. the horse. "I was in the post office last week and I saw a collection of brightly coloured postcards that had been sent home by soldiers from wars far away. I'll go and take a closer look."

"I was at the library yesterday," adds Ellie the elephant. "There are so many books and pictures there. I'm sure I'll find something about our Veterans."

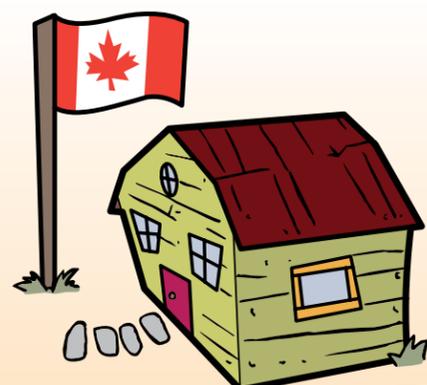
Squeaker the pigeon thinks for a minute. "On the harbour front, there is an antique shop full of neat things," he says. "Why don't I look there?"

"And I'll explore the museum on Main Street near the Cenotaph," offers Win the bear. "I saw a poster of a soldier out front the other day. I'd like to see what's inside."

"What about me?" Simone the cat asks. "Where can I look? I want to find something interesting too."

"Maybe you can find some yard sales this morning," suggests Gandy the dog. "You never know what might be at a yard sale on a bright Saturday morning. I'll go to the Army Surplus store, just in case there's something terrific there."

The animals leave their clubhouse, each going in a different direction. The town's stories are waiting to be discovered and the animals are so excited that they can't help but run. It feels like they are on a treasure hunt. What will they find?



COURAGE COUNTS!

Bonfire Jr. trots over to the post office. In the large entrance hall, he finds the glass case with the postcards that he saw before. When he looks at the cards closely, Bonfire Jr. sees that many of the postcards were sent in the same months of 1918. A sign explains that the postcards were written during a time called "The Last 100 Days of the First World War."

From August 8, 1918 until November 11, 1918, Canadian soldiers were in a number of battles beginning in a French town called Amiens and ending

in Mons, Belgium. The Canadian soldiers were active until the last few minutes on the last day of the war. Sadly, one Canadian soldier was killed just two minutes before the war ended.

Bonfire Jr. reads about the Canadian soldiers' bravery in the First World War from 1914 to 1918. Then he looks at each of the postcards in the display. The soldiers' words on the back of the cards have faded, but Bonfire Jr. can tell from the messages to their families that the soldiers were cheerful and full of hope during those 100 days. They had risked a lot for what they believed in ...

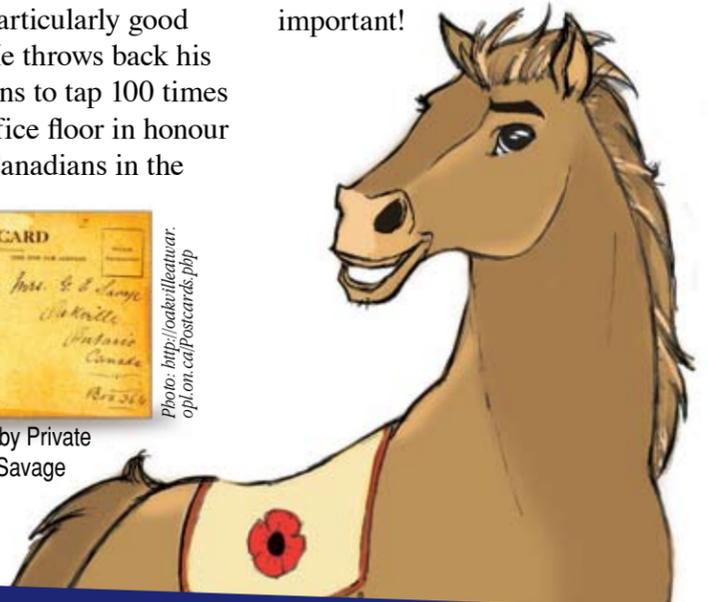
peace, truth, freedom, justice and knowledge. Soon they would be going home!

Bonfire Jr. is a very smart horse. He is particularly good at counting. He throws back his head and begins to tap 100 times on the post office floor in honour of the brave Canadians in the



Postcard written by Private George Edward Savage to his wife Alice Ada Savage.

Photo: <http://cackilleatuar.opl.com.ca/postcards.php>



First World War. The people in the post office stop to watch and listen. They seem to understand that Bonfire Jr.'s count is a special one. He is standing so proudly. Counting to 100 never felt so important!



GANDY RIDES BACK IN TIME

Gandy's out of breath by the time he arrives at the Army Surplus store. He sits to rest for a minute. Suddenly, loud clanging noises ring out from around the side

of the building. Gandy decides to take a peek. He sees a woman repairing the motor of a Jeep. Gandy lays down to watch and listen.

When the woman glances at Gandy, he jumps up to ask her some questions. She tells him that her name is Marie and that she is a collector of military vehicles. The Jeep she's working on was used during the Korean War from 1950 to 1953.

Marie wants to take the Jeep for a test drive to make sure that the

motor is running smoothly. She invites Gandy to come along for the ride. Gandy has always loved moving vehicles. Chasing them is fun; being inside one is even better. Gandy is a happy dog!

During their ride, Marie tells Gandy all about the Canadian Transport Company that used the Jeep during the Korean War. They took care of the ammunition (bullets, bomb shells, grenades, etc.) for the Canadian Armed Forces in Korea. Now that was a dangerous job!

Gandy watches for his Remembrance Clubhouse friends on his ride around town. If they could only see him now!

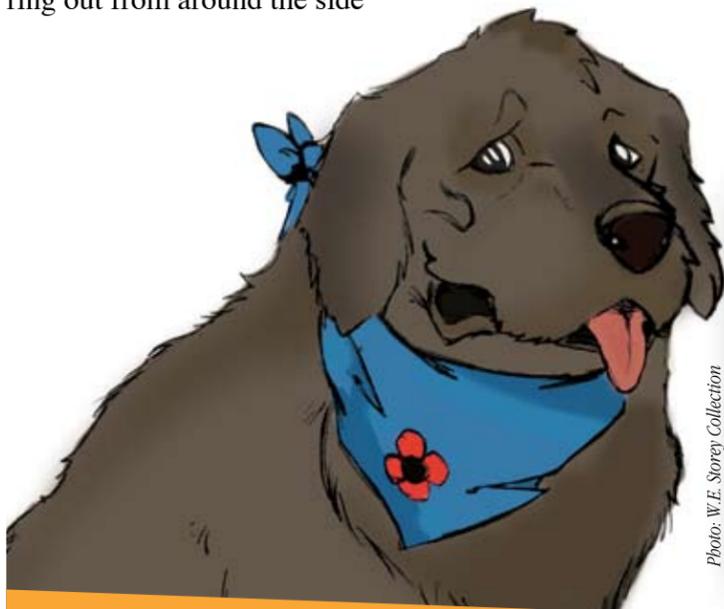


Photo: W.E. Storey Collection



UNDERWATER SWIMMERS

Ah, the public library! Ellie is happy to amble over to one of her favourite places in town. There are so many interesting books here. Where to look first? She asks Mr. Lepage, the librarian, for a book about Canada's Veterans. Mr. Lepage hands Ellie a brand-new book about the Frogmen of Burma. These Veterans served in Southeast Asia during the Second World War. Asia? That's where Ellie was born! How perfect! Ellie can't wait to read all about them!

She learns that Burma is a country in Southeast Asia which is also known as Myanmar. The Frogmen were soldiers who were

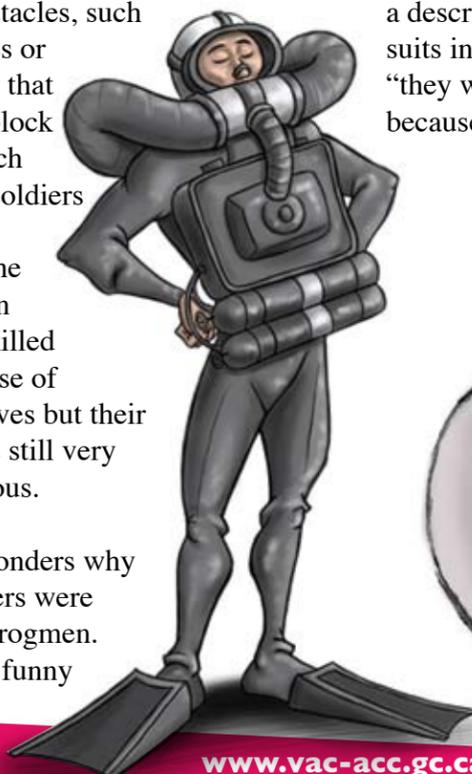
trained to work underwater. The divers' job was to clear any obstacles, such as mines or barriers that might block the beach where soldiers would land. The frogmen were skilled in the use of explosives but their job was still very dangerous.

Ellie wonders why the divers were called frogmen. What a funny

word! Mr. Lepage helps Ellie find a picture of the divers and a description of their diving suits in the book. He reads "they were called frogmen because of their tight rubber

diving suits and their long, rubber flippers that looked like frog feet."

Ellie is so excited to have found a story about Canadian Veterans who served in her native continent. She can't wait to tell her Clubhouse friends!



SIMONE TAKES WING?



Simone pads quietly up and down the streets in search of a yard sale. After only a few minutes, she finds a street closed to traffic and shoppers are wandering from one yard sale to the next. Simone jumps up on the tables to take a closer look at the items for sale. Baby clothes. Toys. Dishes. Not much to interest a curious cat. Ah, but in one yard, a man is selling some items that belonged to a pilot.

Simone spies a shiny pin that is a set of tiny silver air plane wings. This would look great on her neck scarf! As she looks the wings over, she hears a woman talking about a group of civilian (not in the armed forces) airmen who flew air planes from Canada to Great Britain during the Second World War (1939-1945). They

were called The *Ferry Command*. These courageous men completed long flights across the Atlantic Ocean in constant danger of attack from enemy submarines and battleships.

The *Ferry Command* air planes were flown from the Montréal area, Québec, to Gander, Newfoundland, where there was a refuelling stop. (Wait until Gandy hears this, Simone thinks. He's from Newfoundland and Labrador!) From there, the planes were flown across the Atlantic Ocean to Prestwick in Great Britain. The air route that the *Ferry Command* used during the war became a peacetime route for a Canadian private airline. By the end of the Second World War

in 1945, the airmen of the *Ferry Command* had delivered 20,000 aircraft for the war effort.

Simone is impressed. That's a lot of air planes. The pin is nice and Simone wants it to help her remember the exciting story of the *Ferry Command*. Time to tell the others!



Photo: Library and Archives Canada PA-114767

THE BELL STRIKES EIGHT!



Photo: www.army.gc.ca/bcregiment



Ship's bell captured in Holland, Second World War

Squeaker flies down to Water Street. He's always wanted to nose around in the antique shop near the harbour. As someone opens the shop door, he swoops inside and finds a perch in the rafters. There's a lot to see. Shelves and tables are filled with... stuff. Squeaker doesn't even know what some of the things are!

In a back room, he finds a table of things that have all come from a ship. There is a colourful ship's crest, a life-buoy with the ship's name on it, some framed

photographs and best of all, a brass bell. It needs a good polishing but Squeaker thinks that the bell is beautiful. No one is near so Squeaker settles on the table for a closer look.

A card attached to the bell says that it came from a Second World War ship of the Canadian Merchant Navy that sailed many times across the ocean during the Battle of the Atlantic. Although these ships were in constant danger of an enemy attack, they made many successful crossings carrying food and equipment to the soldiers in Europe and around the world. This bell has seen a lot of the world, Squeaker thinks. More than I have!

A ship's bell was used to count down the hours of a sailor's watch (lookout duty). The first half hour was marked by one stroke of the bell, the first hour with two strokes of the bell, and the first hour and a half meant three strokes of the bell were heard. And so it continued until the bell rung out eight times to show the end of one sailor's four-hour watch and the beginning of another's. Squeaker ruffles his feathers just thinking about the staying-power needed to complete a watch. Would he have been able to stay awake and on watch for danger for four hours in the dark?



WHAT'S ON THE MENU?



Win is especially excited about the Clubhouse animals' quest because her neighbour, Justin, bravely served as a trooper in Afghanistan. Win is very proud of Justin!

Inside the museum, Win sees that it is a military museum. It contains many objects used by soldiers. There are photographs, letters, paintings, small-scale models of battlefields, and lots more. Wow! Wait until the others hear about what Win has found, and so close by!

Win wanders through the museum. What interests her most is food! She sees field rations eaten by the soldiers in

Afghanistan when they are away from their base. They are called MREs (Meals Ready to Eat). The meal choices sound tasty to Win. Chicken Mediterranean. Cheese tortellini. Yum! There are vegetarian meals, and Kosher and Halal choices, too. The MREs are sealed in plastic pouches to keep them fresh and they come with their own chemical heater, so the food can be eaten hot.

Win is getting very hungry. Her tummy tells her it's time for lunch.

Photo: Canadian Forces Combat Camera IS2007-0482



ARE YOU SMARTER THAN A HORSE?... OF COURSE!
Solve Bonfire Jr.'s mind-bending puzzles.



PUZZLE #1

Using your best map reading skills and your problem solving skills, decide the direction of the missing arrow (north, south, east or west). Read the first column from top to bottom, the second from bottom to top, and so on snaking up and down the columns to find the pattern.

↓	→	←	↑	↓
→	↓	↑	←	→
←	↑	↓	→	←
↑	←	→	↓	↑
↓	→	←	↑	?

? = _____

PUZZLE #2

Discover the hidden name of a group that you have read about in one of the newspaper stories. Using letters from boxes that touch one another (side-by-side; up and down; backwards; or diagonally), spell the word(s) that make up this name.

Who or what can you find?

F	A	R	D
M	E	N	R
M	O	C	Y

PUZZLE #3

A letter(s) is missing from each of the following words. Once you know all the missing letters, use them to spell a new word.

Pe?ce Tru?h Justic? K?owledg? Lo?e F?edom

New word = _____

PUZZLE #4

Some letters are missing from this alphabet. Use the missing letters to spell the name of a special military unit that you have read about in the newspaper. You will have to unscramble the letters.

A B C D H I J K L P Q S T U V W X Y Z

Missing letters: _____

Name of unit: _____

PUZZLE #5

4D	3B	5D	2E	2D	2C	5E	4E		1B	4B	3D	2B
3C	4C	1A	4A	5B	2A	5C	1D		3A	3E	1E	1C

The word bar above, if filled with the correct letters, will give the name of an area of military service that you read about in the newspaper. Find the letters in the grid to the right by looking at the grid as you did the map on page 1. There are two possible answers for each box in the word bar, one correct, the other incorrect.

	A	B	C	D	E
1	R	U	Y	T	S
2	P	B	A	L	C
3	N	E	K	V	I
4	J	A	X	M	Q
5	D	H	F	O	N

Choose wisely!

Answer: _____

Puzzle Solutions in 2008 Veterans' Week Teacher's Guide at www.vac-acc.gc.ca



AFGHANISTAN'S NIGHT-TIME CREEPY-CRAWLERS

Huge spiders called camel spiders creep into sleeping bags and hide in the empty boots of the soldiers in Afghanistan. Scorpions and poisonous snakes keep the soldiers watchful of where they step. When a soldier first arrives in Afghanistan, he or she is warned to keep food out of their sleeping tents because it attracts rodents, and the rodents attract snakes! The soldiers are also told to kill any snake that bites them so that the doctor can figure out which anti-venom to use. These are every-day precautions in the life of a soldier in Afghanistan!

DID YOU KNOW?

CANADA'S REINDEER

The caribou is the emblem (a symbol, or design on a badge or coat-of-arms) for the Royal Newfoundland Regiment. This large member of the reindeer family is a symbol of Canada's fallen soldiers from Newfoundland in the First World War. There are six Caribou monuments: one in Bowring Park, Newfoundland, and five in Europe at each memorial site representing the Newfoundland soldiers. These caribou are visible year-round.



Photo: VAC

TOP DOG

Dogs were trained to search for hidden landmines (bombs planted beneath or on the ground) during the Korean War. If the soldiers with these highly skilled dogs met up with enemy soldiers, they had orders to save the dog and the engineer who works with the dog as a top priority! These dogs had the ability to save many lives and so, were very valuable to the Korean War effort. Such dogs have also been used in Bosnia-Herzegovina and in Afghanistan. Dogs have a powerful sense of smell and can sniff out the explosives.



Photo courtesy of the Canadian Landmine Foundation

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