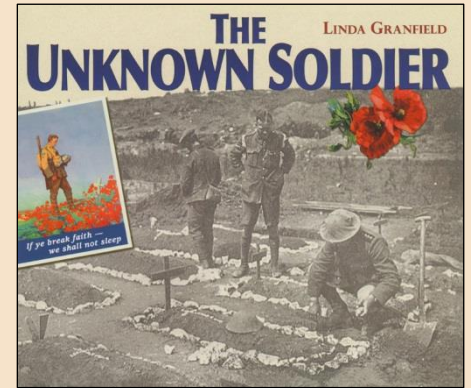
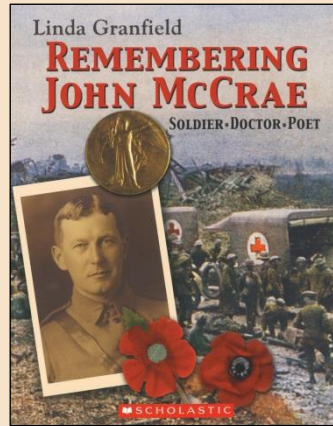
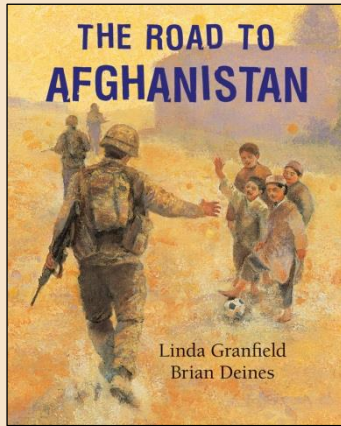
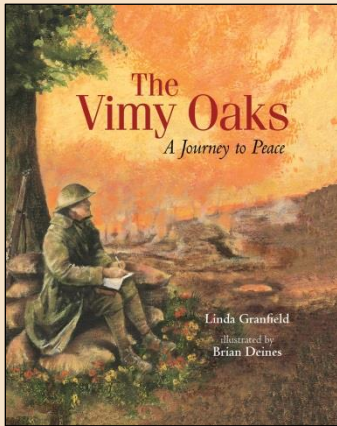


So, You Have to Talk About War?

Tips from Linda Granfield

author of *The Vimy Oaks*, *The Road to Afghanistan*,
Remembering John McCrae and *The Unknown Soldier*



We can't ignore war.

It is on screen in our family rooms and commercial theatres, on billboards — in our media outlets of every kind. Kids play highly sophisticated video games. Music, art, comic books, the evening news — children around the world hear about and see war daily.

Let's face it — nobody wants to just sit on a comfortable couch with a child and talk about a subject like war. Snacks and milk don't make the job any easier, either. And it is a job to discuss war, death or any other difficult topic that is part of our lives. But maybe a child you know has asked you about war. What now?

Here are some things to consider before, during and after your discussion.

- Don't run away from the topic when you've been asked. The child is asking because something has provoked his or her question. You may need to educate yourself about the topic before trying to explain it. Meanwhile, you can acknowledge and ask about the child's concerns, in order to buy some time to gather more information yourself.

- Remember that there is no pat answer — and saying “war is terrible” and “no one should take part” can lead to other questions, such as, “So why did Grandad fight?” Educate yourself on the causes — there is plenty of information available in libraries and online. (You may wish to refer to the Canadian Children’s Book Centre’s List of World War I and World War II books attached for a selection of good reading materials.)
- Look to your own family history for help with a war discussion. Who in your family is/was a veteran? A wartime nurse? Share what facts you know about these veterans. (Don’t forget that much of our family history during wartime comes from those — usually women — who stayed at home and provided other war services of great importance: farming, sewing/knitting, making parachutes, and so on). People at home might have experienced rationing, conscription and victory bond drives, or might have collected tin, sent Red Cross packages, written/mailed soldiers in the field, and so on.
- Display photographs and medals of your family’s veterans all year, not just on Remembrance Day. The visibility and familiarity of these pieces provides comfort, making them part of family discussions any time of the year.
- Remember that veterans were not always in wars in the way children might imagine. Many were stretcher bearers, doctors, medics, clerks, radio operators, cooks, engineers and so on. Children might ask what they did and how that supported the fighting troops. Their experiences can be interesting to children as well.
- Watch for opportunities to speak to the veterans in your community. Remember that not all veterans have children to share their life stories with, and many may be willing to share. Be open to those in your neighbourhood who might want to talk about their experiences with your family.
- Contact your local Royal Canadian Legion Branch and ask if there is a veteran you can invite to your child’s classroom.

- Many of the veterans of the war in Afghanistan are young — only in their twenties and thirties, and some of these veterans are women. They might enjoy visiting your child’s classroom. **IMPORTANT TIP:** It’s worth taking time off from work to be there yourself when a veteran visits the school. **YOU** will come away with more insights about real conflict and be more up to the task when asked, “Why is there war?”
- If you have trouble knowing what to say to a veteran, remember that discussing war is not all about killing. It isn’t. It’s also about people helping one another, providing for others, bringing out the best in each other. More than one veteran has told me that surviving the war was due to good training, a good sense of humour and good luck. You will find stories that reflect all three points.
- As a caregiver, become aware of those in the school or community who have come to Canada from war-torn countries. There is much to learn from chats with new Canadians. Often, these children will not feel they can open up about what they’ve experienced unless they know it is okay to talk about war. I recall a specific time I visited a school for Remembrance Day discussions and learned that after I left one child decided to share her experiences of living in Bosnia during the conflict there. Her classmates were riveted — and warmly understanding. This was ground-breaking for the girl and the other students.
- Try not to make children feel that world peace can be achieved if only they try hard enough. This is unrealistic, and I’ve heard it suggested too many times. Helping children achieve peace on a more manageable scale is more important: no bullying in the schoolyard, no pinching or yelling at the dinner table, more sharing of possessions.
- Channel some of their youthful energy into digging and planting a Remembrance Garden in your yard or the school/community centre grounds. Plant bulbs in the autumn that will come into bloom in April for Vimy Ridge Day: a nice symbol of new life and new attitudes.
- Put a poppy drawing in your window, not just in November — you’ll be surprised how much interesting and helpful discussion results from this action alone.

The Canadian Children's Book Centre's List of Canadian World War I Books for Kids and Teens

And in the Morning

Written by **John Wilson**
Key Porter Books, 2010 © 2003
ISBN 978-1554702640
Grade 7 / Ages 12 and up
Category: Young Adult Fiction

At Vimy Ridge: Canada's Greatest World War I Victory

Written by **Hugh Brewster**
Scholastic Canada, 2006
ISBN 978-0439949828
Grades 4-5 / Ages 9 and up
Category: Non-Fiction

A Bear in War

Written by **Stephanie Innes** and
Harry Endrulat
Illustrated by **Brian Deines**
Pajama Press, 2012
ISBN 978-1927485125
Grade 3 / Ages 5-12
Category: Picture Book

A Brave Soldier

Written and illustrated by
Nicolas Debon
Groundwood Books, 2002
ISBN 978-0888994813
Grade 3 / Ages 8 and up
Category: Picture Book

Brothers Far From Home: The World War I Diary of Eliza Bates (Dear Canada)

Written by **Jean Little**
Scholastic Canada, 2003
ISBN 978-0439969000
Grades 5-7 / Ages 9-12
Category: Junior Fiction

Charlie Wilcox

Written by **Sharon E. McKay**
Penguin Canada, 2003 © 2000
ISBN 978-0143014706
Grades 7-8 / Ages 12-15
Category: Young Adult Fiction

Charlie Wilcox's Great War

Written by **Sharon E. McKay**
Penguin Canada, 2003
ISBN 978-014301471
Grades 7-8 / Ages 12-15
Category: Young Adult Fiction

Daughter of War

Written by **Marsha Forchuk
Skrypuch**
Fitzhenry & Whiteside, 2008
ISBN 978-1554550449
Grade 7 / Ages 12 and up
Category: Young Adult Fiction

Desperate Glory: The Story of World War I

Written by **John Wilson**
Napoleon Publishing, 2008
ISBN 978-0143176305
Grades 6-7 / Ages 11-13
Category: Non-Fiction

Forget-Me-Not

Written by **Maxine Trottier**
Illustrated by **Nancy Keating**
Tuckamore Books, 2008
ISBN 978-1897174241
Grades 3-4 / Ages 7-12
Category: Picture Book

Generals Die in Bed: A Story from the Trenches

Written by **Charles Yale Harrison**
Annick Press, 2002 © 1930
ISBN 978-1550377309
Grade 8 / Ages 14 and up
Category: Young Adult Fiction

The Great War

(Discovering Canada)
Written by **Robert Livesey**
Illustrated by **A.G. Smith**
Fitzhenry & Whiteside, 2006
ISBN 978-1550051360
Grade 4 / Ages 9 and up
Category: Non-Fiction

If I Die Before I Wake: The Flu Epidemic Diary of Fiona Macgregor

(Dear Canada)
Written by **Jean Little**
Scholastic Canada, 2007
ISBN 978-0439988377
Grades 5-7 / Ages 9-12
Category: Junior Fiction

In Flanders Fields: The Story of the Poem by John McCrae

Written by **Linda Granfield**
Illustrated by **Janet Wilson**
Fitzhenry & Whiteside, 2005
ISBN 978-1550051445
Grade 4 / Ages 8 and up
Category: Non-Fiction

Halifax Explodes! (Canadian Flyer Adventures)

Written by **Frieda Wishinsky**
Illustrated by **Patricia Ann Lewis-
MacDougall**
Owlkids Books Inc., 2011
ISBN 978-1926818986
Grades 3-4 / Ages 6-9
Category: Early Chapter Book

Irish Chain

Written by **Barbara Haworth-Attard**
HarperTrophyCanada, 2002
ISBN 978-0006392156
Grades 5-6 / Ages 10-13
Category: Intermediate Fiction

A Kind of Courage

Written by **Colleen Heffernan**
Orca Book Publishers, 2005
ISBN 978-1551433585
Grades 7-8 / Ages 12 and up
Category: Young Adult Fiction

Lone Hawk: The Story of Air Ace Billy Bishop

Written and illustrated by
John Lang
Puffin Canada, 2011
ISBN 978-0143174660
Grades 3-4 / Ages 8-12
Category: Non-Fiction

Lord of the Nutcracker Men
Written by **Iain Lawrence**
Delacorte Press, 2001
ISBN 978-0385729246
Grade 5 / Ages 11 and up
Category: Intermediate Fiction

Megiddo's Shadow
Written by **Arthur Slade**
HarperTrophyCanada, 2006
ISBN 978-0006395683
Grades 6-8 / Ages 12 and up
Category: Young Adult Fiction

A Nation is Born: World War I and Independence, 1910-1929 (How Canada Became Canada)
Written by **Sheila Nelson**
Mason Crest Publishers, 2006
ISBN 978-1422200063
Grades 6-8 / Ages 11-14
Category: Non-Fiction

No Safe Harbour: The Halifax Explosion Diary of Charlotte Blackburn (Dear Canada)
Written by **Julie Lawson**
Scholastic Canada, 2006
ISBN 978-0439969307
Grades 5-7 / Ages 9-12
Category: Junior Fiction

Passchendaele: Canada's Triumph and Tragedy on the Fields of Flanders
Written by **Norman Leach**
Coteau Books, 2008
ISBN 978-0439988339
Grades 9-10 / Ages 14 and up
Category: Non-Fiction

A Poppy is to Remember
Written by **Heather Patterson**
Illustrated by **Ron Lightburn**
North Winds Press/Scholastic, 2004
ISBN 978-0439967860
Grades 1-3 / Ages 5-8
Category: Non-Fiction

Prisoners in the Promised Land: The Ukrainian Internment Diary of Anya Soloniuk (Dear Canada)
Written by **Marsha Forchuk Skrypuch**
Scholastic Canada, 2007
ISBN 978-0439956925
Grades 5-7 / Ages 9-12
Category: Junior Fiction

Remembering John McCrae: Soldier, Doctor, Poet
Written by **Linda Granfield**
Scholastic Canada, 2009
ISBN 978-0439935616
Grades 4-5 / Ages 8-12
Category: Non-Fiction

Shot at Dawn (I Am Canada)
Written by **John Wilson**
Scholastic Canada, 2011
ISBN 978-0545985956
Grades 5-7 / Ages 9-12
Category: Junior Fiction

Silent in an Evil Time: The Brave War of Edith Cavell
Written by **Jack Batten**
Tundra Books, 2007
ISBN 978-0887767371
Grades 5-6 / Ages 12 and up
Category: Non-Fiction

The War to End All Wars: The Story of World War I
Written by **Jack Batten**
Tundra Books, 2009
ISBN 978-0887768798
Grade 8 / Ages 13 and up
Category: Non-Fiction

The Unknown Soldier
Written by **Linda Granfield**
Scholastic Canada, 2008
ISBN 978-0439935586
Grades 3-4 / Ages 8 and up
Category: Non-Fiction

Where Poppies Grow: A World War I Companion
Written by **Linda Granfield**
Fitzhenry & Whiteside, 2005
ISBN 978-1550051469
Grade 5 / Ages 8 and up
Category: Non-Fiction

About the Canadian Children's Book Centre

The Canadian Children's Book Centre (CCBC) is a national, not-for-profit organization founded in 1976. We are dedicated to encouraging, promoting and supporting the reading, writing, illustrating and publishing of Canadian books for young readers. Our programs, publications, and resources help teachers, librarians, booksellers and parents select the very best for young readers.

At the heart of our work at the Canadian Children's Book Centre is our love for the books that get published in Canada each year, and our commitment to raising awareness of the quality and variety of Canadian books for young readers.

The Canadian Children's Book Centre reaches well over half a million people each year, and we're still growing. Please check out our programs and publications, and see how we can help you, and you can help us, to bring Canadian books and young readers together.

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The work of the Canadian Children's Book Centre is made possible through the generous support of our members, volunteers, sponsors, funders and the continuing assistance of the Canada Council, Writing and Publishing Section, and the Public Readings Program.

The Canadian Children's Book Centre's List of World War II Books for Kids and Teens

Anna's Goat

Written by **Janice Kulyk Keefer**
Illustrated by **Janet Wilson**
Orca Book Publishers, 2000
ISBN 978-1551431536
Grades 1-2 / Ages 6-9
Category: Picture Books

Attack on Pearl Harbor

Written by **Shelley Tanaka**
Illustrated by **David Craig**
Scholastic Canada, 2001
ISBN Attack on Pearl Harbor
Grades 4-6 / Ages 9 and up
Category: Non-Fiction

Behind Enemy Lines (I Am Canada)

Written by **Carol Matas**
Scholastic Canada
ISBN 978-0-545990660
Grades 5-6 / Ages 9-14
Category: Junior Fiction

Brave Deeds: How One Family Daved Many from the Nazis

Written by **Ann Alma**
Groundwood Books, 2008
ISBN 978-0888997913
Grades 5-6 / Ages 10-12
Category: Non-Fiction

The Darkest Corner of the World

Written by **Urve Tamberg**
Dancing Cat Books, 2012
ISBN 978-1770862142
Grades 7-9 / Ages 12-15
Category: Young Adult Fiction

Day of the Flying Fox: The True Story of World War II Pilot Charley Fox

Written by **Steve Pitt**
Sandcastle/Dundurn Press, 2008
ISBN 978-1550028089
Grades 3-4 / Ages 8-13
Category: Non-Fiction

The Desert Hawk

Written by **Barbara Hehner**
HarperTrophyCanada, 2005
ISBN 978-0006394785
Grades 7-8 / Ages 10 and up
Category: Non-Fiction

The Diary of Laura's Twin (Holocaust Remembrance Book for Young Readers)

Written by **Kathy Kacer**
Second Story Press, 2008
ISBN 978-1897187395
Grade 5 / Ages 9-12
Category: Junior Fiction

Dieppe: Canada's Darkest Day of World War II

Written by **Hugh Brewster**
Scholastic Canada, 2009
ISBN 978-0545994200
Grades 5-6 / Ages 10 and up
Category: Non-Fiction

Ellen: Waiting Time

(Our Canadian Girl, Book 3)
Written by **Dorothy Joan Harris**
Penguin Canada, 2005
ISBN 978-0143050056
Grades 3-4 / Ages 8-12
Category: Early Chapter Books

Far From Home (Canadian Flyer Adventures)

Written by **Frieda Wishinsky**
Illustrated by **Leanne Franson**
Maple Tree Press, 2008
ISBN 978-1897349434
Grades 3-4 / Ages 6-9
Category: Early Chapter Books

Flames of the Tiger

Written by **John Wilson**
Kids Can Press, 2003
ISBN 978-1553376194
Grades 6-7 / Ages 11-14
Category: Intermediate Fiction

The Flight of the Tiger Moth

Written by **Mary Woodbury**
Coteau Books, 2007
ISBN 978-1550503647
Grade 6 / Ages 11-14
Category: Intermediate Fiction

Fly Boy

Written by **Eric Walters**
Puffin Canada, 2011
ISBN 978-1897174241
Grades 5-6 / Ages 11-14
Category: Intermediate Fiction

A Foreign Field

Written by **Gillian Chan**
Kids Can Press, 2002
ISBN 978-1553373506
Grade 9 / Ages 14 and up
Category: Young Adult Fiction

Forget-Me-Not

Written by **Barbara Haworth-Attard**
HarperTrophyCanada, 2005
ISBN 978-0006395492
Grades 6-7 / Ages 12 and up
Category: Young Adult Fiction

Four Steps to Death

Written by **John Wilson**
Kids Can Press, 2005
ISBN 978-1553377054
Grades 6-8 / Ages 11-13
Category: Intermediate Fiction

The Girls They Left Behind

Written by **Bernice Thurman Hunter**
Fitzhenry & Whiteside, 2005
ISBN 978-1550419276
Grades 7-9 / Ages 12-16
Category: Young Adult Fiction

Good-bye Marianne

Written by **Irene N. Watts**
Illustrated by **Kathryn E. Shoemaker**
Tundra Books, 2008
ISBN 978-0887768309
Grades 5-6 / Ages 9-13
Category: Graphic Novels

The Greenies

Written by **Myra Paperny**
HarperTrophyCanada, 2005
ISBN 978-0006393559
Grades 7-9 / Ages 12-14
Category: Young Adult Fiction

Guardian Angel House (Holocaust Remembrance Book for Young Readers)

Written by **Kathy Clark**
Second Story Press, 2009
ISBN 978-1897187586
Grade 5 / Ages 9-13
Category: Junior Fiction

Hana's Suitcase Anniversary Album (Holocaust Remembrance Book for Young Readers)

Written by **Karen Levine**
Second Story Press, 2012
ISBN 978-1926920368
Grades 4-5 / Ages 9 and up
Category: Non-Fiction

Hiding Edith
(Holocaust Remembrance Book for Young Readers)

Written by **Kathy Kacer**
Second Story Press, 2006
ISBN 978-1897187067
Grades 4-6 / Ages 9 and up
Category: Non-Fiction

High Flight: The Story of World War II

Written by **Linda Granfield**
Illustrated by **Michael Martchenko**
Tundra Books, 1999
ISBN 978-0887764691
Grades 5-6 / Ages 10 and up
Category: Non-Fiction

Honey Cake

Written by **Joan Better Stuchner**
Illustrated by **Cynthia Nugent**
Tradewind Books, 2007
ISBN 978-1896580371
Grades 3-4 / Ages 9-12
Category: Junior Fiction

Hope's War

Written by **Marsha Forchuk Skrypuch**
Dundurn Press, 2001
ISBN 978-1895681192
Grades 7-8 / Ages 12 and up
Category: Young Adult Fiction

Izzie: Trongate Fury
(Our Canadian Girl, Book 2)

Written by **Budge Wilson**
Penguin Canada, 2005
ISBN 978-0143014652
Grades 3-4 / Ages 8-12
Category: Early Chapter Books

Jesper

Written by **Carol Matas**
Scholastic Canada, 0
ISBN 978-0439956390
Grade 5 / Ages 9-14
Category: Junior Fiction

Kanada

Written by **Eva Wiseman**
Tundra Books, 2006
ISBN 978-0887767296
Grades 6-8 / Ages 12-16
Category: Young Adult Fiction

Keeping Secrets

Written by **Jean Booker**
Scholastic Canada, 2011
ISBN 978-1443102346
Grade 6 / Ages 9-13
Category: Junior Fiction

The Lights Go On Again

Written by **Kit Pearson**
Puffin Canada, 2007 © 1993
ISBN 978-0143056362
Grade 5 / Ages 9-13
Category: Junior Fiction

Lisa

Written by **Carol Matas**
Scholastic Canada, 0
ISBN 978-0439956383
Grade 5 / Ages 9-14
Category: Junior Fiction

Looking at the Moon

Written by **Kit Pearson**
Puffin Canada, 2007 © 1991
ISBN 978-0143056355
Grade 5 / Ages 9-13
Category: Junior Fiction

Making Bombs for Hitler

Written by **Marsha Forchuk Skrypuch**
Scholastic Canada, 2012
978-1443107303
Grades 5-7 / Grades 9-14
Category: Junior Fiction

Man Overboard!

Written by **Curtis Parkinson**
Tundra Books, 2012
ISBN 978-1770492981
Grades 5-7 / Ages 10-14
Category: Intermediate Fiction

Margit: Home Free
(Our Canadian Girl, Book 1)

Written by **Kathy Kacer**
Penguin Canada, 2003
ISBN 978-0143312000
Grades 3-4 / Ages 8-12
Category: Early Chapter Books

Menorah in the Night Sky:
A Miracle of Chanukah

Written by **Jacques J.M. Shore**
Illustrated by **S. Kim Glassman**
Gefen Publishing House, 2002
ISBN 978-9652292964
Grades 4-6 / Ages 9-12
Category: Picture Books

My Canary Yellow Star

Written by **Eva Wiseman**
Tundra Books, 2001
ISBN 978-0887765339
Grades 6-7 / Ages 11 and up
Category: Intermediate Fiction

Naomi's Tree

Written by **Joy Kogawa**
Illustrated by **Ruth Ohi**
Fitzhenry & Whiteside, 2008
ISBN 978-1554550555
Grade 3 / Ages 9-11
Category: Picture Books

The Night Spies

(Holocaust Remembrance Book for Young Readers)
Written by **Kathy Kacer**
Second Story Press, 2003
ISBN 978-1896764702
Grades 6-8 / Ages 11-13
Category: Intermediate Fiction

Numbers

Written by **David A. Poulsen**
Key Porter Books, 2008
ISBN 978-1554700950
Grade 7 / Ages 13 and up
Category: Young Adult Fiction

The Old Brown Suitcase

Written by **Lillian Boraks-Nemetz**
Ronsdale Press, 2008 © 1994
ISBN 978-1553800576
Grade 6 / Ages 11-14
Category: Intermediate Fiction

One Splendid Tree

Written by **Marilyn Helmer**
Illustrated by **Dianne Eastman**
Kids Can Press, 2005
ISBN 978-1553376835
Grades 2-3 / Ages 4-8
Category: Picture Books

Prisoner of Dieppe
(I Am Canada)

Written by **Hugh Brewster**
Scholastic Canada, 2010
ISBN 978-0545985949
Grades 5-7 / Ages 9-12
Category: Junior Fiction

The Righteous Smuggler
(Holocaust Remembrance Book for Young Readers)

Written by **Debbie Spring**
Second Story Press, 2005
ISBN 978-1896764979
Grades 4-6 / Ages 9-12
Category: Junior Fiction

Run Like Jäger

Written by **Karen Bass**
Coteau Books, 2008
ISBN 978-1550503777
Grade 7 / Ages 13 and up
Category: Young Adult Fiction

The Sky Is Falling

Written by **Kit Pearson**
Puffin Canada, 2007 © 1989
ISBN 978-0143056348
Grade 5 / Ages 9-13
Category: Junior Fiction

Stolen Child

Written by **Marsha Forchuk Skrypuch**
 Scholastic Canada, 2010
 ISBN 978-0545986120
 Grades 4-5 / Ages 9-12
Category: Junior Fiction

Tapestry of Hope: Holocaust Writing for Young People

Compiled by **Lillian Boraks-Nemetz**
 and **Irene N. Watts**
 Tundra Books, 2003
 ISBN 978-0887766381
 Grades 7-9 / Ages 11 and up
Category: Intermediate Fiction

Tell No One Who You Are: The Hidden Childhood of Régine Miller

Written by **Walter Buchignani**
 Tundra Books, 2008
 ISBN 978-0887768170
 Grade 4 / Ages 9 and up
Category: Junior Fiction

Ten Marks and a Train Ticket: Benno's Escape to Freedom (Holocaust and Hope Testimonial)

Written by **Susy Goldstein, Gina Hamilton** and **Wendy Share**
 The League for Human Rights of B'nai Brith Canada, 2008
 ISBN 978-0978417406
 Grades 5-6 / Ages 9-12
Category: Non-Fiction

The Thought of High Windows

Written by **Lynne Kositsky**
 Kids Can Press, 2004
 ISBN 978-1553376217
 Grades 7-9 / Ages 12 and up
Category: Young Adult Fiction

The Tunnel King: The True Story of Wally Floody and the Great Escape

Written by **Barbara Hehner**
 HarperTrophyCanada, 2004
 ISBN 978-0006394778
 Grades 4-6 / Ages 10 and up
Category: Non-Fiction

Turned Away: The World War II Diary of Deborah Bernstein (Dear Canada)

Written by **Carol Matas**
 Scholastic Canada, 2005
 ISBN 978-0439969468
 Grades 5-7 / Ages 9-12
Category: Junior Fiction

Ultra Hush-Hush: Espionage and Special Missions (Outwitting the Enemy: Stories from the Second World War)

Written by **Stephen Shapiro**
 Illustrated by **David Craig**
 Annick Press, 2003
 ISBN 978-1550377781
 Grades 6-7 / Ages 12 and up
Category: Non-Fiction

What World is Left

Written by **Monique Polak**
 Orca Book Publishers, 2008
 ISBN 978-1551438474
 Grades 7-8 / Ages 12 and up
Category: Young Adult Fiction

When the Spirits Dance

Written by **Larry Loyie** with **Constance Brissenden**
 Theytus Books, 2006
 ISBN 978-1894778404
 Grade 3 / Ages 8-12
Category: Non-Fiction

Violins of Autumn

Written by **Amy McAuley**
 Walker Publishing Company /
 Bloomsbury Publishing, Inc.
 ISBN 978-0802722997
 Grades 7-9 / Ages 12 and up
Category: Young Adult Fiction

When the War is Over

Written by **Martha Attema**
 Orca Book Publishers, 2002
 ISBN 978-1551432403
 Grade 7 / Ages 12 and up
Category: Young Adult Fiction

Whispers from the Camps (Whispers)

Written by **Kathy Kacer** and **Sharon E. McKay**
 Puffin Canada, 2009
 ISBN 978-0143312529
 Grade 7 / Ages 12 and up
Category: Non-Fiction

Whispers from the Ghettos (Whispers)

Written by **Kathy Kacer** and **Sharon E. McKay**
 Puffin Canada, 2009
 ISBN 978-0143312512
 Grade 7 / Ages 12 and up
Category: Non-Fiction

Whispers in Hiding (Whispers)

Written by **Kathy Kacer** and **Sharon E. McKay**
 Puffin Canada, 2010
 ISBN 978-0143312536
 Grade 7 / Ages 12 and up
Category: Non-Fiction

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“BOOKMARK!” HIGHLIGHTS BOOKS FOR A VARIETY OF GRADE LEVELS AROUND A PARTICULAR THEME.

In preparation for Remembrance Day, *Bookmark!* offers a range of books on war, conflict, peace and remembrance in many parts of the world, compiled by CCBC Library Coordinator Meghan Howe. For the CCBC’s World War I reading list (compiled in 2010) and World War II reading list (compiled in 2011), visit www.bookcentre.ca/resources_librarians.

The Worlds of War

PICTURE BOOKS AND EARLY READERS FOR KINDERGARTEN TO GRADE 3

A Bear in War

written by Stephanie Innes and Harry Endrulat
illustrated by Brian Deines
(Pajama Press, 2012)

The true story of how a tiny stuffed bear named Teddy became an enduring memento of a Canadian family’s love during World War I is being re-released in September 2012. Teddy now lives in a glass display case at the Canadian War Museum and is one of its most beloved exhibits.

The Little Yellow Bottle

written by Angèle Delaunois
translated by Barbara Creary
illustrated by Christine Delezenne
(Second Story Press, 2011)

Marwa and Ahmad’s lives are changed forever when Ahmad unknowingly picks up a bomb while they are playing. Both children struggle to recover and regain hope, despite their grave injuries. This title is also available in French as *Une petite bouteille jaune*.

A Poppy Is to Remember

written by Heather Patterson
illustrated by Ron Lightburn
(Scholastic Canada, 2007)
Soothing words aimed specifically at young

children explain the symbolism of the poppy. This gorgeous book, with paintings by award-winning illustrator Ron Lightburn, includes information on Canada’s wartime and peacekeeping endeavours, and the notable poem, *In Flanders Fields*.

Proud as a Peacock, Brave as a Lion

written by Jane Barclay
illustrated by Renné Benoit
(Tundra Books, 2009)

In response to his grandson’s questions, a granddad talks about how, as a very young man, he was as proud as a peacock in uniform, busy as a beaver on his Atlantic crossing and brave as a lion as he charged into battle. The room is filled with an imaginary menagerie as the child thinks about the different aspects of war.

Raffi’s New Friend (First Novels)

written by Sylvain Meunier
translated by Sarah Cummins
illustrated by Élisabeth Eudes-Pascal
(Formac Publishing, 2010)

Raffi knows all about being different, so when the new girl is teased about her head scarf, Raffi knows he can help her. Both Raffi and the bullies learn from the new girl what it’s like to live through war. Also available in French as *La tourterelle triste*.

JUNIOR NON-FICTION AND FICTION FOR GRADES 4 TO 8

At Vimy Ridge: Canada’s Greatest World War I Victory

written by Hugh Brewster
(Scholastic Canada, 2007)

Brewster honours the men who fought at Vimy Ridge as well as those who gave their lives. Contains photographs, illustrations, glossary, index and selected bibliography. A great companion to this book is

Brewster’s *Dieppe: Canada’s Darkest Day of World War II*. Fiction lovers will enjoy the author’s *Prisoner of Dieppe: World War II* in the I Am Canada series

Canada’s Wars: An Illustrated History

written by Jonathan Webb
(Scholastic Canada, 2010)

From the 1884 Nile Expedition to the Gulf War, Canadian soldiers have fought and died in many wars. This overview offers detailed stories of combat and the home front, and of heroes both known and unsung. Stunning photographs, paintings, archival posters and artifacts brings these many historical moments to life.

The Kids Book of Canada at War (Kids Books of...)

written by Elizabeth MacLeod
illustrated by John Mantha
(Kids Can Press, 2007)

This book looks at Canada’s battles and wars and at the people who fought them. Meet heroic Canadians, learn about the technology of war and read chilling first-person accounts from soldiers on the battlefields. Illustrations, photographs, sidebars, timeline and index included.

Last Airlift: A Vietnamese Orphan’s Rescue from War

written by Marsha Forchuk Skrypuch
(Pajama Press, 2011)

The last Canadian airlift operation to leave Saigon arrived in Toronto on April 13, 1975. Son Thi Anh Tuyet was one of 57 orphans on that flight. Based on personal interviews and enhanced with archive photos, Tuyet’s story of the Saigon orphanage and her flight to Canada is an emotional and suspenseful journey.



Shimmerdogs

written by Dianne Linden
(ThistleDown Press, 2008)

Seven-year-old Mike has experienced much in his life — his mother is a Canadian peacekeeper in Bosnia, he’s living with his uncle and going to a new school and his elderly neighbour dies. When he learns about shimmerdogs — dogs brought to earth from the moon to bring peace — he begins to heal. A prequel to *Peacekeepers*.

Shot at Dawn: World War I (I Am Canada)

written by John Wilson
(Scholastic Canada, 2011)

A shell-shocked soldier is sentenced to death for desertion. During the night before his execution, he recounts the events leading up to his arrest. Wilson has written extensively on war. His other books include *And in the Morning*, *Battle Scars*, *Flags of our Fathers* and *Death on the River*.

The Unknown Soldier

written by Linda Granfield
(Scholastic Canada, 2008)

“Loved and were loved, and now we lie / In Flanders fields.” Learn how unknown soldiers are honoured worldwide with monuments, memorials, tombs, tributes and symbols. See how genetic identification leads to fewer “unknowns.” Includes photos, artwork, glossary, index and timeline.

When Elephants Fight: The Lives of Children in Conflict in Afghanistan, Bosnia, Sri Lanka, Sudan and Uganda

written by Eric Walters and Adrian Bradbury
(Orca Book Publishers, 2008)

Meet five children whose lives are affected by conflict raging in their respective nations of Afghanistan, Bosnia, Sri Lanka, Sudan

and Uganda. Maps and facts on regional history, and causes and results of the conflicts lend context to their stories.

SENIOR NON-FICTION AND FICTION FOR GRADES 7 AND UP

Beyond Bullets: A Photo Journal of Afghanistan

written by Rafal Gerszak with Dawn Hunter
photos by Rafal Gerszak
(Annick Press, 2011)

Rafal Gerszak’s photos and journals offer a truly insightful look into Afghanistan and its people. A photographer who spent a year embedded with American troops but who also travelled to Afghanistan on his own, Gerszak gives a moving and eye-opening picture of this country.

The Bite of the Mango

written by Mariatu Kamara with Susan McClelland
(Annick Press, 2008)

Mariatu Kamara was 12 and living in a small village in Sierra Leone when young rebels cut off her hands. Discover her astounding journey from her war-torn country to a new life in Canada and a role as a UNICEF Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict. Winner of the 2009 Norma Fleck Award for Canadian Children’s Non-Fiction.

Chanda’s Wars

written by Allan Stratton
(HarperTrophyCanada, 2008)

Caring for her brother and sister after her mother dies, Chanda travels to her grandparents’ village, looking for their support. When rebels kidnap her siblings to serve as soldiers in a civil war, Chanda turns to a troubled young neighbour for help. A sequel to the award-winning *Chanda’s Secrets*.

Children of War: Voices of Iraqi Refugees

written by Deborah Ellis
(Groundwood Books, 2009)

Twenty-three Iraqi children, aged eight to 19, confide what it means to be a refugee. An introduction offers a historical overview and sets the context for the children’s accounts. A glossary, a map and further-information suggestions are included. See also Ellis’s *Off to War: Voices of Soldiers’ Children*.

Passchendaele: Canada’s Triumph and Tragedy on the Fields of Flanders

written by Norman Leach
(Coteau Books, 2008)

The Battle of Passchendaele has come to epitomize the horrors of World War I, but also uncommon leadership and extraordinary heroism. This thoroughly illustrated, accessible account of the battle tells the story of Canada’s triumph and tragedy. Look for Leach’s new book, *1812: Three Voices* in the fall of this year.

Thunder Over Kandahar

written by Sharon E. McKay
photos by Rafal Gerszak
(Annick Press, 2010)

When the Taliban burn down their village school, Tamanna and Yasmine decide to flee. Separated after travelling through dangerous mountain passes, they lose the one thing that has helped them survive — each other. Features stunning black-and-white photos, a list of Afghan terms and a historical timeline. See also McKay’s *War Brothers* about child soldiers in Uganda.