

VIRTUAL SCHOOL PROGRAMS

TEACHER OVERVIEW

A SOLDIER'S STORY – WILL VAN ALLEN

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

(Grades 1 to 6; Cycles 1 to 3)

The presenter will guide students through an age-appropriate and sensitive overview of the experience of a real Canadian First World War soldier, Will van Allen. The presenter will illustrate the narrative using props, images and paintings from the Museum's collections.

Curriculum Connections: Social Studies, Language Arts

Historical Thinking: Primary Source Evidence, Historical Significance

Duration: 45 minutes



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BEFORE THE PROGRAM

The following activities are suggestions only. There are no pre-requisite activities for your program.

About the First World War

Students do not require prior knowledge of the First World War to participate in this virtual school program. The program focuses on modelling historical thinking activities and all necessary information will be covered during the session. However, if you would like to introduce the subject, we suggest the Museum's [First World War module](#) as a good place to start.

About the Museum

If you would like to familiarize yourself or your students with the Canadian War Museum, we suggest this [short video](#). It features spectacular views of the building alongside images of some of the Museum's most treasured artifacts. To learn more about the history of the War Museum, including an overview of its galleries, please visit the [About section](#) of our website.

CONTACT US

If you have any questions, please contact us at information@warmuseum.ca or call 819-776-7000 (local), 1-800-555-5621 (toll-free).

Interested in regular updates from the Museum? Sign up for our new [Teachers' Club](#).

AFTER THE PROGRAM

Follow up your virtual experience by exploring one of the many [online resources](#) that the Canadian War Museum has to offer. You'll find digitized content, historical overviews and classroom-ready activities.

ONLINE RESOURCES

Over the Top

This web module enables intermediate students to experience [life in the trenches](#) during the First World War. Part history and part adventure story, *Over the Top* allows players to determine the outcome of the story by making decisions at key moments. This educational resource includes follow-up activities, maps, films and document references.

Remembrance Day

Planning a Remembrance ceremony? Looking for accessible primary source materials? Developed for educators, this new digital resource includes artifacts, art and documents from the Museum's collections, as well as historical overviews and learning activities. This [online module](#) has content and suggestions for Remembrance ceremonies that are ready to use, or can be customized for your class, school or virtual event.

Supply Line: Travelling Discovery Boxes

Explore [teacher resources](#) developed for the First and Second World War Discovery Boxes. Use the background materials, including personal stories and archival documents, and the lesson plans on their own or in conjunction with the travelling education kit.

ACTIVITIES

Revisit Will van Allen's story.

1. Explore the reproduction [photo album](#) based on Will van Allen's records.
2. Read about [Will van Allen](#) and wartime photography, in general.
3. Learn more about the uniform pieces discussed in the program:
 - [Service dress hat](#)
 - [Service dress jacket](#)
 - [Puttees](#)
 - [Nursing Sister's apron](#)
4. Take a closer look at the paintings shown during the program:
 - [The Birth of an Army – Valcartier, 1914](#), Painted by Homer Watson
 - [Canada's Answer](#), painted by Lieutenant Commander Norman Wilkinson
 - [The Stretcher-bearer Party](#), painted by Lieutenant Cyril Henry Barraud
5. Explore more First World War artwork. Check out the Visual Thinking Strategies [lesson plan](#) on our Supply Line website. There is also a version for the [Second World War](#).