

Wreaths Across America

Lesson Plan

Teacher:	Date:
Grade: 4 th	Lesson: Memorial Day; Find a Way to Serve on Memorial Day in Remembrance of Our Fallen Heroes

OBJECTIVES CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.4.1 Refer to details and examples in a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text. CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.4.2 Determine a theme of a story, drama, or poem from details in the text; summarize the text. CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.4.3 Describe in depth a character, setting, or event in a story or drama, drawing on specific details in the text (e.g., a character's thoughts, words, or actions).		STRATEGIES: <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing/Coloring <input type="checkbox"/> Writing <input type="checkbox"/> K-W-L Worksheet <input type="checkbox"/> Collaboration <input type="checkbox"/> Discussion Questions <input type="checkbox"/> Small Groups <input type="checkbox"/> Large Group <input type="checkbox"/> Story Elements Worksheet	
MATERIALS:	Computer/laptop; internet (with access to YouTube); Smart Board; copies of the K-W-L Worksheet, copies of the Story Elements Worksheet		
Engage: Hook the students	Activity – Hand out the Memorial Day K-W-L Worksheet. Give the students a few minutes to fill in the first section- “What I Know”. Play the History of Memorial Day Video, https://youtu.be/YChfpVD5xpk Students will complete the K-W-L Worksheet.		
Explore: Students make sense of a concept through observations.	Play the video of the Read Aloud book, <i>The Wall</i> , Author Eve Bunting, https://youtu.be/BTjw-E5AAko Explain to students that families who have a loved one that has died while they are on <u>active duty</u> in the military, or who die as a result of that service or are missing in action are called Gold Star Families. Memorial Day is a day to honor and remember veterans who have died. Memorial Day is celebrated on the last Monday in May. On Memorial Day, many Gold Star Families go to the cemetery where their loved ones are buried, to place flowers or flags, just like they did on Remembrance Day in 1865.		
Explain: Teacher introduces formal vocabulary and language to students.	Remembrance Day Memorial Day The Wall	The Vietnam War Gold Star Mother Gold Star Family	Tomb of the Unknowns Ronald Reagan
Elaborate: Students apply what they have learned.	Students will complete the Story Elements worksheet for <i>The Wall</i> ; Play the Memorial Day Tribute, "Thank You", https://youtu.be/arSiv9PRo04		
Evaluate: assessment.	K-W-L Memorial Day Worksheet, Story Elements Worksheet		
Enrichment/Service-Learning Project	Students can pick from many projects, placing small flags on the graves of fallen heroes at a local cemetery; make cards and send them to veterans in a local VA Home, VA Hospital or nursing home; share what you have learned about Memorial Day in class with your family and friends; interview a veteran as a part of the Wreaths Across America Oral History Project, more information available on the Wreaths Across America Education page.		

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K-W-L

Memorial Day

What I KNOW ?	What I WANT to Know?	What I LEARNED ?

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Story Elements for *The Wall* by Eve Bunting

Name of the Story:

Setting:

Character:

Plot:

Summarize the Story:

Theme (Lesson Learned)

Your Response:

Wreaths Across America

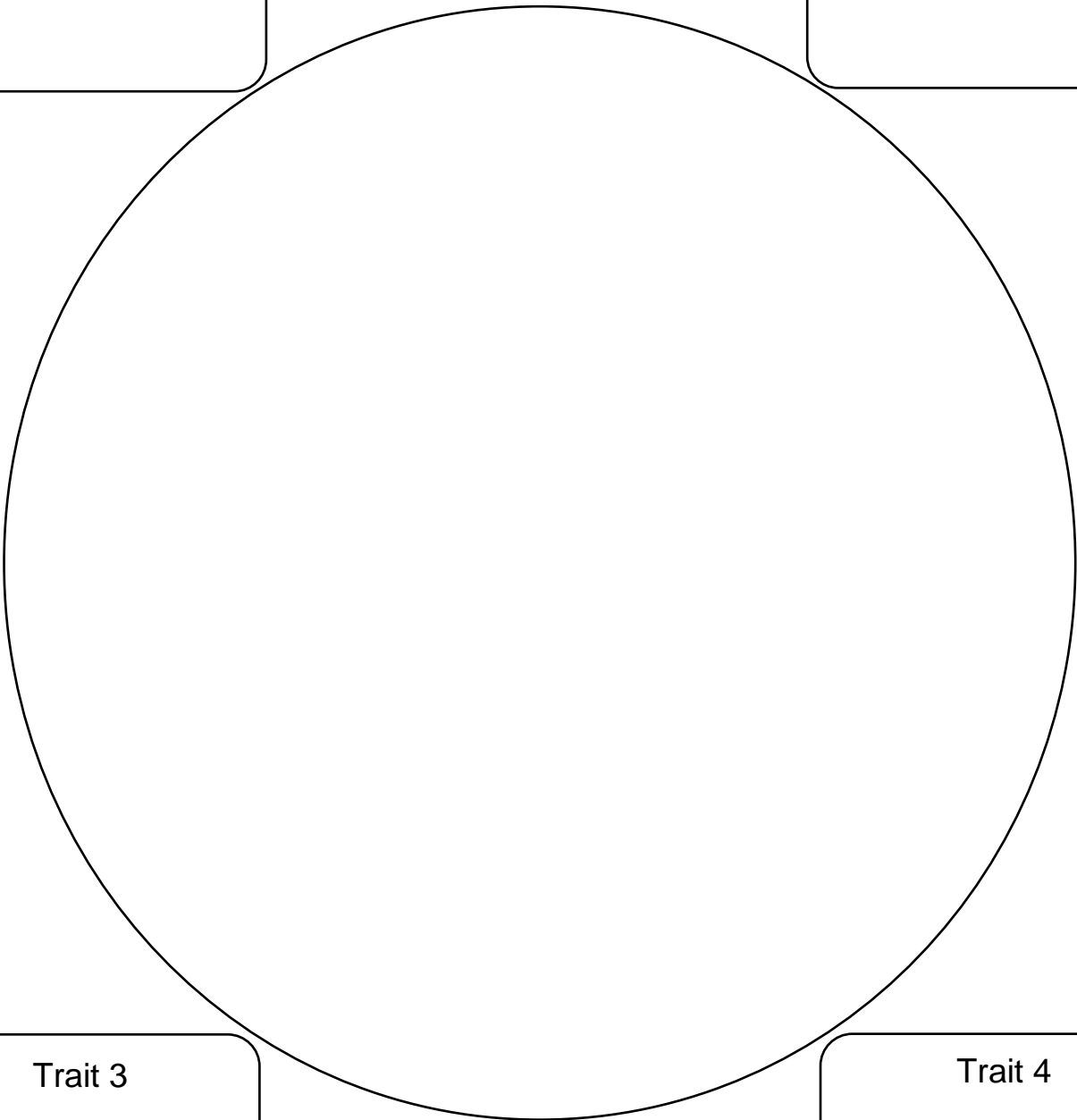
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Draw one character from the book, *The Wall*. List 4 character traits of that person in the boxes below.

Trait 1

Trait 2



Trait 3

Trait 4