



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Class: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Local War Memorials

*An activity of "Remembering horrible histories helps ..."*

Human beings talk a lot about the importance of peace and harmony. Yet, when some countries quarrel, they resort to wars. Even from afar, hearing about their wars can make us feel sad for those who are suffering.

Although world news makes it sound like there are so many wars going on, the good news is that the vast majority of countries are enjoying peace. And, peaceful times are best for thinking hard about how to prevent future wars.

Knowing about past wars is the first step. Read "**Remembering horrible histories helps people avoid war and violence**" (page 1 & 28, *What's Up* April 2026) to understand this logic. Like the Cambodian Memorial Sites, we have war memorials in Singapore too. You may have visited some of them. This group activity invites your class to reflect on the value of eight of our memorial sites.

1. Split your class into eight groups. Select one of these for your group. No two groups should pick the same memorial.

- Battlebox (Fort Canning Bunker)
- Bukit Batok War Memorials
- The Cenotaph, Singapore
- Changi Chapel & Museum
- Civilian War Memorial
- The Former Ford Factory
- Kranji War Memorial
- Fort Siloso Surrender Chambers

2. Gather information about your focus memorial. A good place to start is NLB's Infopedia (<https://www.nlb.gov.sg/>). Go to the memorial's official website as well.

3. Prepare a ten-minute oral presentation. After introducing the memorial, your group's main focus should be on your reflections.

Use these prompts to guide you:

- Where is this memorial?
- When was it built?
- Which battle/war is it about?
- What is its physical appearance? Describe its striking features.
- As virtual visitors, what feelings do you have when you look at photos of it and read the online descriptions?
- Does your group think that this war memorial can do its job of reminding us that war is never a good solution to problems? Elaborate.
- 4. Take turns to present and listen to all the groups.

