

ACTIVITY TWO: DESIGN A MEMORIAL

Learning objectives:

- To find out why things look how they do/what influences a design;
- To discover how to develop your own ideas/designs through research and exploration;
- To use a variety of media from 2d to 3d;
- To create a final piece that conveys creative ideas clearly using accurate scale.

This Activity is in two parts.

Resources

- Metric ruler
- Pencils and paints
- Variety of paintbrushes
- Different thicknesses of card
- Scissors and PVA glue
- Computer and printer (optional)

Introduction

Research into the design of existing memorials from WWI.

- a. Find out who designed the Cenotaph?
- b. Is there a memorial in your area? What does it look like and why?
- c. How do memorials in different towns, cities and villages differ and how are they the same?
- d. Do you think memorials in other countries look the same as ours?

PART ONE: EXISTING MEMORIALS

MAIN TASKS

1. Choose a memorial and make drawings of it from all angles.
 - How is it meant to be viewed e.g. from the front or all sides like a sculpture?
 - Does the design include a figure/figures and/or symbolism e.g: doves, wreaths, angels, flags?
2. Using a ruler, make an accurate 1:10 scale drawing of a chosen memorial. (1cm on the ruler represents 10cm in reality).
3. Make an accurate 3D model of a chosen memorial. Use card and PVA glue.
 - How will you represent the stone or marble. You could use a combination of paint and pencil to reproduce the colour and texture of stone and/or marble.
 - Can you reproduce the lettering? You could print off lettering and glue it onto your model or try to write it by hand using a very sharp pencil.
 - What type of lettering is used on the memorial and why? (Roman script).

PART TWO: CREATE YOUR OWN MEMORIAL

MAIN TASKS

1. Choose a soldier whose life you have researched and design a memorial specifically to them. Think about the following to influence your design:
 - Where were they from?
 - What was their life like?
 - Did they survive the war or were they killed in battle?
 - What do you think they thought about the war?
2. Planning your design:
 - a. Will your design resemble the memorials that exist in any way or will your design be completely different?
 - b. What colour will it be?
 - c. What material(s) will it be made of?
 - d. Will it include writing, sculptural elements like figures, banners, wreaths or will the design feature other ideas e.g: personal objects, items, symbols that tell us something about the life, back ground and character your specific soldier.
3. Make a visual list (like a scrap book/ideas sheet) of all the things you know about the soldier e.g: background, work, culture, religion. Think about how these can be included in your design and make exploratory drawings with as many ideas as you can think of. Think about: SHAPE, MATERIALS, COLOUR, SCALE - is the memorial very large or small...it could be a tower or a plaque....it could be a collection of many elements or one single, powerful idea.
4. Other research:

Look at the work of sculptors like [Anthony Caro 1](#) [Anthony Caro 2](#) and [Richard Long](#)
Could their style of work influence the design of a modern day memorial?
As well as existing WWI memorials, how have designers changed the way memorials are designed today?
5. Realise your design by making either:
 - a detailed drawing or painting of the finished design
 - a detailed 1:10 pencil, scaled drawing complete with basic measurements and information written about the materials, colours etc.
 - a 1:10 scale 3D model of your sculpture. You can use card, wire, modelling materials like plasticine, clay, beads, fabric etc.

Extension Activity or Homework

Make the real thing! How big can this be? You could make something large and sculptural using the card from old boxes as the basic structure and newspaper and masking/parcel tape to create a "dry papier-mâché" technique. The sculpture can be painted using water based paints mixed with PVA glue.