

ART ACTIVITY SEVEN: POSTCARDS HOME

Create a postcard that either a soldier would want to send home or that a loved one from home would want to send to a soldier.

Learning objectives:

- To use research to explore a subject;
- To collate material;
- To explore ideas through drawing and other media;
- To create a final design unique to you.

Resources

- White card cut into postcard size
- Drawing and painting materials
- Thread and needles for embroidery (optional)
- Memorabilia pack

Introduction

Look at postcards from the First World War using the following links and the facsimiles in the Memorabilia pack: [Silk embroidered postcards](#), [Picture postcards](#)

1. How many different designs can you find? e.g: photographs, illustrations, embroidered designs, collage.
2. Think about postcards you might have sent or received e.g. to relatives on holiday. How do these postcards differ from the ones you have?

MAIN TASKS

1. Make drawings exploring different ideas for your postcard. Will your postcard be a truthful image or is it about sending a particular type of message e.g: "I am ok", "It is terrible here", "I miss you", "You are fighting for us", "Wait for me", "This is our King and who we are"...
2. Having explored as many different ideas as you can, choose one idea and create a full colour design. It may be a simple, expressive line drawing with no or limited use of colour or it could be a painted image or photo montage. It could be embroidered.
3. Think about how the design reflects the person who is sending or receiving it? What images tell us about them and their life. e.g: where are they from? What do they think of the war? Are they optimistic or pessimistic? Are they telling the truth about how they feel or using romance, humour, beauty to hide the reality of what they are experiencing or feeling? Is the card design meant to tell the truth and/or reassure?