

Grades 4-6 Lesson Plan
Keep Moving Forward
Ordinary People, Doing Extraordinary Things



WREATHS
— *across* —
AMERICA

Wreaths Across America

Lesson Plan

Teacher:	Date:
Grades: 4-6 Part One-Morrill Worcester	Lesson: Keep Moving Forward-Ordinary People Doing Extraordinary Things-Wreaths Across America

OBJECTIVES: CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.4.5 Conduct short research projects that build knowledge through investigation of different aspects of a topic. CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.5.2-Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly. CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.6.2-Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas, concepts, and information through the selection, organization, and analysis of relevant content.		STRATEGIES: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Drawing/Coloring<input type="checkbox"/> Writing<input type="checkbox"/> Think/Pair/Share<input type="checkbox"/> Collaboration<input type="checkbox"/> Discussion Questions<input type="checkbox"/> Small Groups<input type="checkbox"/> Large Group	
MATERIALS:	Computer/laptop; internet (with access to YouTube); Smart Board; copies of the article "It Brings Me Peace": Thousands Participate in Wreaths Across America Day at ANC"; copies of the What is A Veterans Wreath, copies of Morrill Worcester at Arlington National Cemetery Coloring Sheet; copies of From the Tip Land to Arlington National Cemetery Maze		
Engage: Hook the students	Think/Pair/Share Activity- Pair the students with a partner. Explain the T/P/S directions. The students will think of their answer, get with their partner, and share their answer. T/P/S Question: Do you know an ordinary person that does extraordinary things? Who is it? Why do you consider the things they do to be extraordinary?		
Explore: Students make sense of a concept through observations.	Play the Everyday Heroes video, "Honoring Heroes: The Inspiring Story of Wreaths Across America" https://www.everyday-heroes.tv/video/honoring-heroes-the-inspiring-story-of-wreaths-across-america/ Students will read the article "It Brings Me Peace": Thousands Participate in Wreaths Across America Day at ANC". Hand out the What is A Veterans Wreath sheet. Review the attributes of a veterans wreath. After students read the article, students will write per grade level objectives about the topic. Allow students time to complete the assignment. Morrill Worcester at Arlington National Cemetery Coloring Sheet. Allow students time to complete the activity. Handout From the Tip Land to Arlington National Cemetery Maze. Allow students time to complete the activity.		
Explain: Teacher introduces formal vocabulary and language to students.	Arlington National Cemetery honesty optimism hopes & dreams purity humility concern longevity simplicity ambition pride endurance sacrifice		
Elaborate: Students apply what they have learned.	4-Conduct short research projects that build knowledge through investigation of different aspects of a topic. 5-Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly. 6-Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas, concepts, and information through the selection, organization, and analysis of relevant content.		
Evaluate: assessment.	Teachers will select which activities to use as formal/informal assessments.		
Enrichment/Service-Learning Project	Students will brainstorm an activity to recognize and honor an ordinary person in their community or school that does extraordinary things.		

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“It Brings Me Peace”: Thousands Participate in Wreaths Across America Day at ANC

By Kevin M. Hymel

12/18/2024

<https://www.arlingtoncemetery.mil/Blog/Post/14578/It-Brings-Me-Peace-Thousands-Participate-in-Wreaths-Across-America>

On Saturday, Dec. 14, 2024, thousands of people braved cold temperatures to honor the country’s fallen by laying holiday* wreaths at Arlington National Cemetery (ANC) — one of more than 4,900 locations nationwide to participate in Wreaths Across America Day.

Some attended alone or with family. Others came with school groups, sports teams or office mates. Some wore military, police or Scout uniforms. They stood in lines to pick up wreaths from the backs of trucks parked along the avenues before heading out into sections. Some people read the names silently before they laid their wreath; others spent a quiet moment in front of a headstone or columbarium niche; a few saluted the fallen.

Numerous families came to lay wreaths at their loved one’s grave markers. Retired U.S. Army Capt. Duana Hall visited from Clarksville, Tennessee, to lay a wreath at her son’s grave. “It was hard,” she said, “but there’s something empowering about the whole event.” She added that choosing ANC as her son’s final resting place was the best decision she ever made. “It gives me peace knowing he is still protected by the best.”

Marilyn Fulton and her daughter, Stephanie Woodward, traveled all the way from Portland, Oregon, to lay a wreath at the grave of U.S. Navy Cmdr. Stephen Fulton, Marilyn’s husband and Stephanie’s father. They had buried him nine months earlier. “He and I visited here together back in 2021 when he decided he wanted to be buried here,” recalled Stephanie, who is named after her father. This was the first time that either of them had seen Fulton’s headstone. “It was very emotional to see the headstone,” Stephanie said. The words “BELOVED HUSBAND, FATHER, BROTHER, GRANDPA & SON” are etched into Fulton’s headstone.

Teenaged friends Mary Ross and Natalia Rodriguez attended with their families. Ross’s father is an Army soldier, while Rodriguez’s father is a Marine. Ross appreciated reading names on grave markers and learning about the people buried at ANC. “When you’re saying their names, you’re giving them life again,” she said.

David Bednarski brought his 11-year-old daughter, Kate, from Allentown, Pennsylvania, to participate in their second Wreaths Across America Day. They laid wreaths at multiple headstones in Sections 32 and 33 in hopes of paying it forward. Bednarski’s brother, who served in the Air Force, lays at rest at Fort Logan National Cemetery in Denver, Colorado. “Laying a wreath was important to him,” Bednarski remembered. “Now that he’s gone, we’ve made a point to get here and lay a wreath on someone else’s grave in hopes that someone out there is putting one on his.”

*Wreaths Across America does not refer to the wreaths placed on National Wreaths Across America Day as “holiday” wreaths, they are Veterans wreaths, remembering our fallen veterans.

Remember-Honor-Teach

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Visit www.wreathsasscrossamerica.org to learn about our mission to **Remember, Honor, Teach**, sponsor a wreath for a veteran at any participating cemetery, or sign up to volunteer.

*A veterans' wreath is a symbol of **HONOR, RESPECT, and VICTORY.***



10 BALSAM BOUQUETS make up each veterans' wreath, representing the

10 SPECIAL QUALITIES that our veterans embody.



Evergreens =
**LONGEVITY
& ENDURANCE**



Red Bow =
**GREAT
SACRIFICE**



Forest Scent =
**PURITY &
SIMPLICITY**



Circular Shape =
ETERNITY

1. Their **BELIEF** in a greater good
2. Their **LOVE** for each other
3. Their **STRENGTH**, work ethic, & character
4. Their **HONESTY** & integrity
5. Their **HUMILITY**, selflessness, & modesty
6. Their **AMBITIONS** & aspirations
7. Their **OPTIMISM** for America
8. Their **CONCERN** for the future
9. Their **PRIDE** in their duties
10. Their **HOPES & DREAMS** that didn't always come true, but left them with no regrets

Remember-Honor-Teach

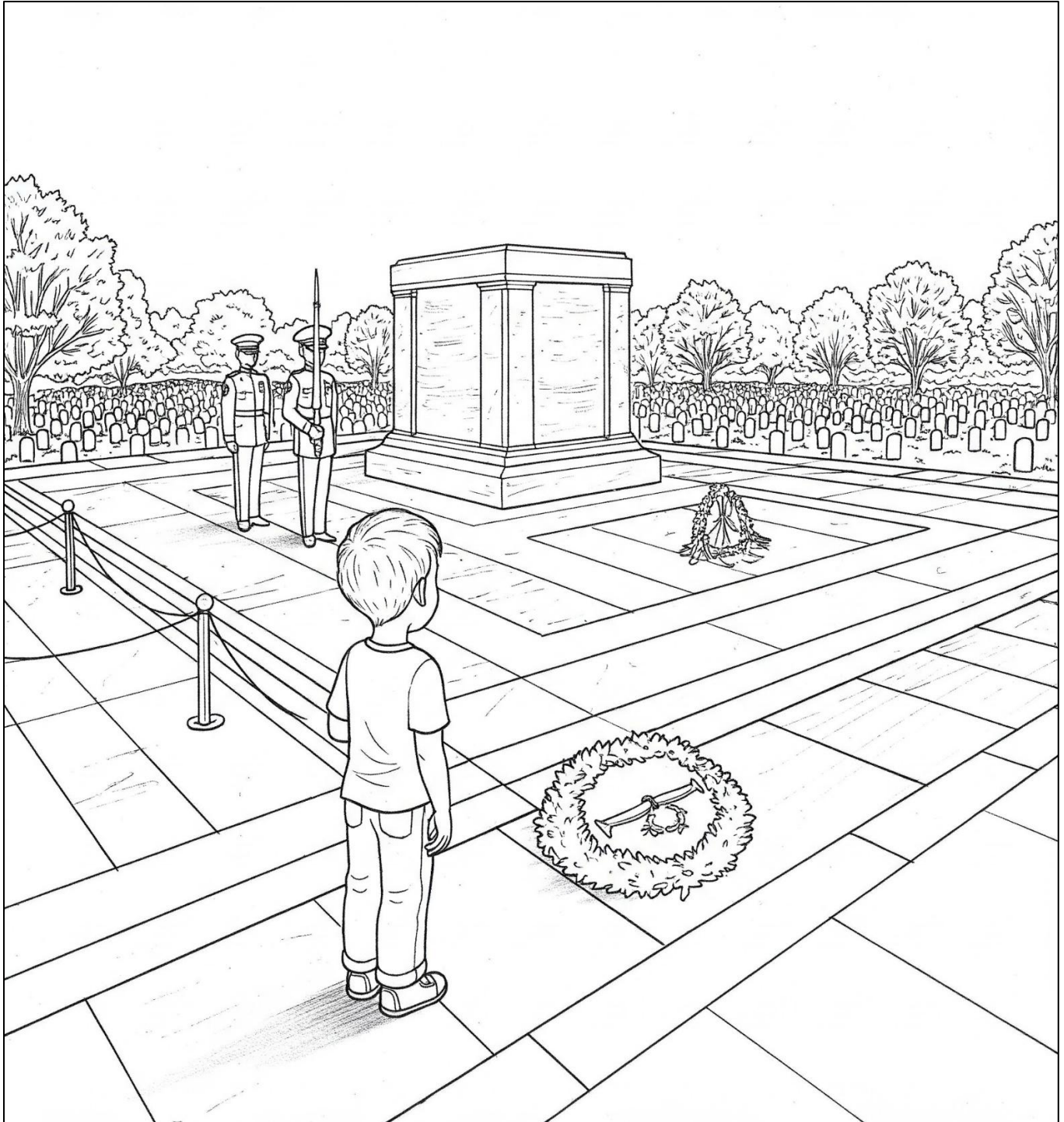
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Morrill Worcester at Arlington National Cemetery

Name _____



At 12 years old, Morrill Worcester, a newspaper boy for the Bangor Daily News, won a trip to Washington, DC. One of the places that left an unforgettable mark on Morrill was Arlington National Cemetery.

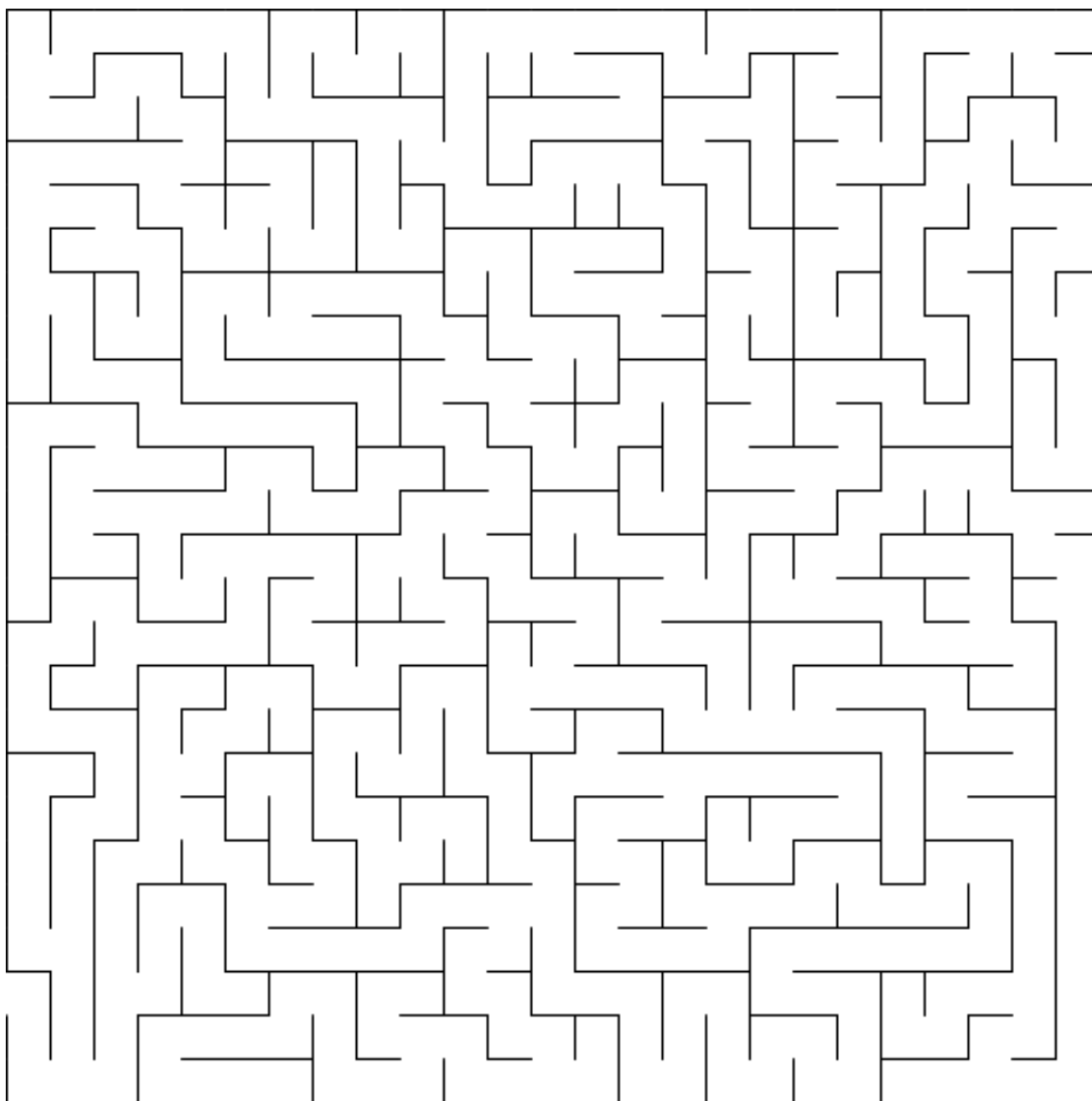
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Name _____

From the Tip Land to Arlington National Cemetery



EXIT

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Remember-Honor-Teach

Wreaths Across America

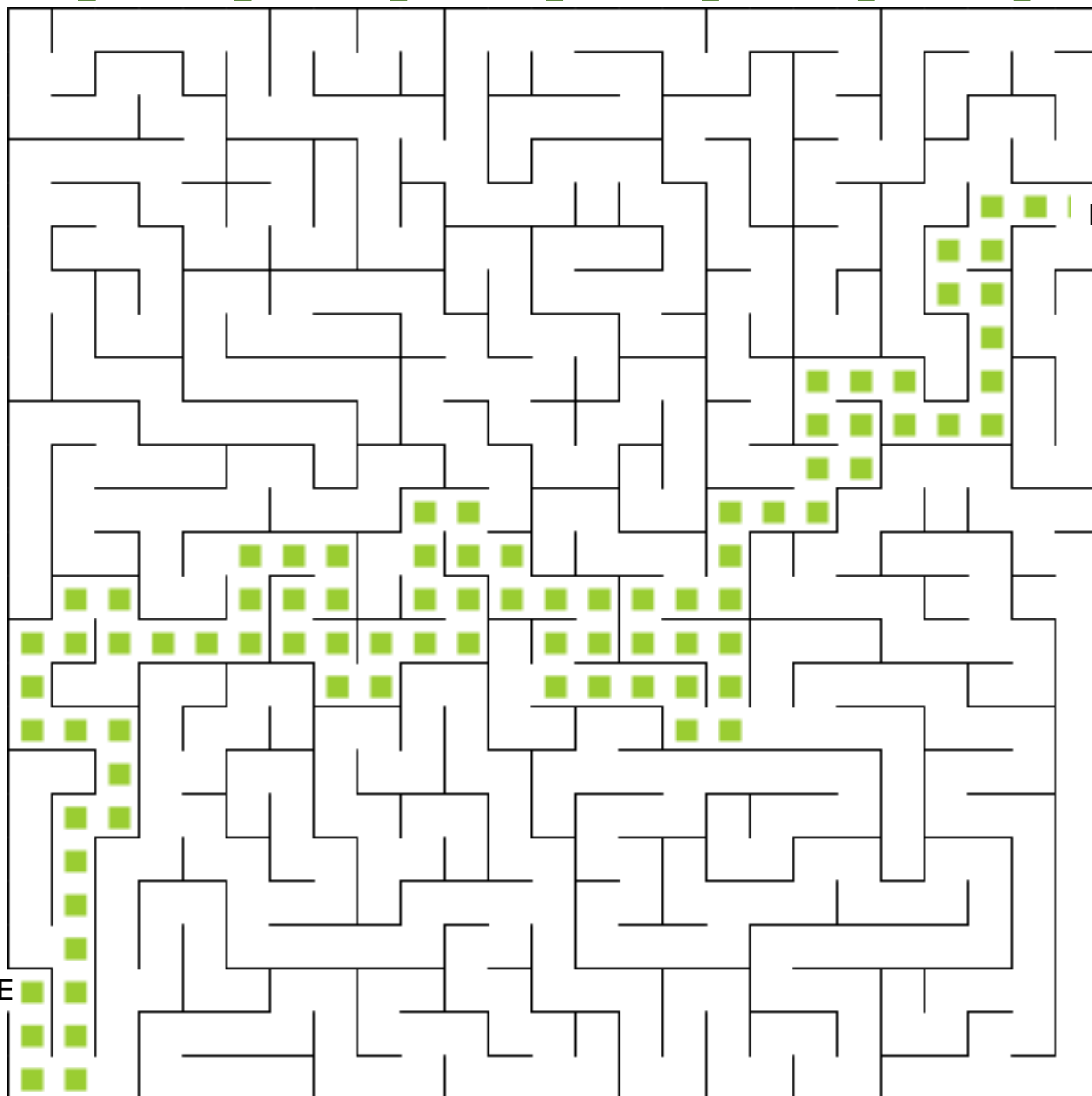
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Name _____

ANSWER KEY

From the Tip Land to Arlington National Cemetery



Remember-Honor-Teach