THE GREAT WAR
1914 - 1918
18. While a single event sparked the beginning of World War I, factors existed many years prior to its beginning. In 1914, these conflicts among European countries exploded into war. The United States hoped to stay out of this war, called the Great War.
19. There were for MAIN causes that led to the beginning of the War. Remember, when the war began, the US was NOT involved with it. We wanted to remain neutral (not take sides).

a. **MILITARISM** - a belief that using military forces was a good way to solve problems. Nations tried to develop **WEAPONS** more powerful than those of their neighbors. This was called the “**ARMS** race.”
b. **ALLIANCES**- partnerships certain countries had with each other. Partners agreed to help each other in the event of an attack. Countries with alliances with each other were called **ALLIES**. “I’ve got your back.”
c. **IMPERIALISM**- empire-building-
Countries fought for control of colonies in places like Africa and Asia. Britain and France had large empires all over, making Germany, Russia, and Italy jealous. With this policy, stronger nations take control of **WEAKER** areas.
d. **NATIONALISM** - sense of pride or loyalty to a nation and the desire for independence. Empires in Europe included people from different ethnic groups who wanted to break away and form their own countries.
20. The spark of the war occurred on June 28, 1914 in Sarajevo when Archduke Ferdinand and his wife Sophie were assassinated by a Serbian terrorist named Princip.

a. Ferdinand was HEIR to the Austria-Hungary throne.

a. When Austria declared war on SERBIA, alliances came into play.
21. There were two big alliances during the war.

a. Allied Powers or **ALLIES** (Triple Entente): Britain, France, Russia, Italy, and eventually the USA
b. **CENTRAL** Powers (Triple Alliance): Austria-Hungary, Bulgaria, Germany, Ottoman Empire (Turkey)
22. The United States wanted to remain neutral (not take sides) at first, but was eventually drawn into the conflict.

a. Wartime **PROPAGANDA** (like yellow journalism) and our close sympathies and close commercial ties to **GREAT BRITAIN** strained our neutrality.
b. Germany developed submarines, or underwater boats called *U*-boats. They declared unrestricted warfare on the high seas (even on neutral ships trading with Britain and France). One of these sank a British passenger ship called the **LUSITANIA** off of Ireland’s coast in May, 1915. There were many Americans on the ship.
NOTICE!

TRAVELLERS intending to embark on the Atlantic voyage are reminded that a state of war exists between Germany and her allies and Great Britain and her allies; that the zone of war includes the waters adjacent to the British Isles; that, in accordance with formal notice given by the Imperial German Government, vessels flying the flag of Great Britain, or of any of her allies, are liable to destruction in those waters and that travellers sailing in the war zone on ships of Great Britain or her allies do so at their own risk.

IMPERIAL GERMAN EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON, D. C., APRIL 22, 1915.
c. The Zimmermann note—a **TELEGRAM** was intercepted from a German official (Arthur Zimmermann) to the German Minister in Mexico. In this note, he said if the US declared war on Germany, then Mexico should enter into an **ALLIANCE** with Germany. With the support of Germany, Mexico could reconquer lost territory in New Mexico, Texas, and Arizona. Journalists reported about this telegram in their newspapers.
WE intend to begin on the first of February unrestricted submarine warfare. We shall endeavor in spite of this to keep the United States of America neutral. In the event of this not succeeding, we make Mexico a proposal of alliance on the following basis: make war together, make peace together, generous financial support and an understanding on our part that Mexico is to reconquer the lost territory in Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona. The settlement in detail is left to you. You will inform the President of the above most secretly as soon as the outbreak of war with the United States of America is certain and add the suggestion that he should, on his own initiative, Japan to immediate adherence and at the same time mediate between Japan and ourselves. Please call the President's attention to the fact that the ruthless employment of our submarines now offers the prospect of compelling England in a few months to make peace.* Signed, [illegible].
d. These were a few **FACTORS** that led to America’s support of the war.
e. On May 1917, President Woodrow Wilson asked Congress to declare war on Germany after their U-boats sank three American *MERCHANDISE* ships...because “the world must be safe for democracy.”
23. The US joined forces with the Allies in June 1917, even though we were not ready because our Army was small and we had few weapons.
a. Our forces sent to Europe were called the American Expeditionary Force (AEF) and were nicknamed the “DOUGHBOYS.”

b. They were led by General PERSHING.

c. The war had been going on for 3 years before we entered it.
d. They were instrumental in the **WESTERN** front against Germany and in breaking the deadlock of **TRENCH** warfare.

e. Upon arriving in Europe, soldiers were sent to **FRANCE** where most of the fighting was occurring.
24. The Selective Service Act provided for a military draft to get people to join the military’s armed forces.
a. Men from the ages of **21-30** (eventually 18-45) had to register with the draft board.

b. The military included immigrants, **AFRICAN** Americans, **NATIVE** Americans, and **MEXICAN** Americans.
c. While even in the military, they continued to face the same *PREJUDICES* in the war they faced at home. Most were given *KITCHEN* duties or menial jobs.

d. Eight *CHOCTAW* Indian soldiers transmitted radio messages in their native language as a “secret code” that no other country could decipher.
25. A front is a place where fighting takes place. The western front included French trenches and the eastern front was mostly in Russia.
a. The two fighting sides were separated with a “NO-MAN’S LAND” area which was land not held by either side but filled with barbed wire and land mines (which were BOMBS buried in the ground).
No Man’s Land was the land in between trenches.

Soldiers constantly patrolled No Man’s Land to kill the enemy.

Death was a huge threat.
b. Women were not allowed to fight in the war, but they helped out by taking over the *JOBS* of men at home who left to fight in the war. They worked in the fields as nurses, clerical positions, and in *FACTORIES*.
c. Soldiers lived and fought in **TRENCHES** (ditches) dug into the ground. These trenches averaged about 6.5 feet deep and were **COLD**, damp, and dark. **BATHING** was not an option and many men wore the same clothing for days and weeks at a time.
**Flugzeug**
Aircraft can warn of the build-up of enemy troops before an attack.

**Stacheldraht**
Barbed wire: metres deep and an impassable obstacle for any troops able to reach it.

**Niemandsland**
No Man's Land (the stretch of land between the trenches of the opposing sides) has already been churned up by shell fire. In wet weather it becomes a mass of mud, making it even harder for troops to cross.

**Hochbunker**
Concrete block house for a machine-gun.

**Unterstützungstrenchen**
Front-line trench.

**Frontgraben**
Support trench.

**Reservegraben**
Reserve trench.

**Laufgraben (Stichgraben)**
Communication trenches allow reserves to be brought forward without exposing them to enemy fire.

**Langstrecken Artillerie**
Long-range artillery is placed about 10 km behind the front line. These guns fire at advancing enemy troops.

**Front Unterstände**
Front-line dug-outs provide protection but not against a direct hit from an artillery shell.

**Unterstand**
A deep dug-out. German ones could be 15 m below ground and too well constructed to be damaged by shell fire.

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**PROBLEMS FACING ATTACKING TROOPS**
The trenches were built for protection, but they were not really safe.

Trench raids- enemies would come to kill soldiers.
d. In addition to mud, the trenches contained human **WASTE** and unburied corpses (which of course attracted **FLIES AND RATS**).
Death of soldiers in the trenches
There were millions and millions of rats in the trenches.

They would eat human remains.

Some ate so much that they grew to the size of cats.

1 could reproduce 900 in a year.
The trenches smelled horrible.

They had a combination of

- Corpses
- Men without baths
- Poison gas
- Food cooking
- The bathroom
· The trenches were extremely muddy due to excessive rainfall.

· Often, the entire bottom of the trench would be covered in muddy water.

· Mud could reach a foot in height.
· Trench foot was a fungal infection caused by the soldier’s feet constantly being wet and muddy.

· Trench foot could result in amputation or even death.
· Lice were a never-ending problem.

· They would breed in the seams of the soldier’s clothing.

· Lice caused Trench Fever, which was extremely painful and caused high fevers.
26. New kinds of technology and weapons were used in the war.
a. Germany invented a faster *MACHINE* gun, which was fought off by Britain’s *TANKS*. 
Machine Gun

Rifle Grenades

Flame-throwers

Machine Gun in the trenches
US Soldier - armed and ready

Barbed Wire Area
b. The Germans tried to use poisonous **GAS** against the tanks. Some of these gases included chlorine, tear, and mustard gases, which caused **BLINDNESS**, burned the flesh, and rotted the throat and lungs.
Mustard Gas

Gas Mask

Respirator
c. Gas **MASKS** were used to fight the gases.

d. Submarines- used **TORPEDOES** to blow up ships

e. Airplanes- for dropping bombs and **SPYING** on other troops
Carrier Pigeons - carried messages in the small tube attached to their feet

Dog wearing a gas mask
27. Changes took place back in America during the war as all Americans were asked to “do their part” to help out in the war effort.
a. Some factories stopped making “normal” **PRODUCTS** and began to make items needed for the war (like **WEAPONS**)
b. Farmers were asked to grow *CROPS* for the troops overseas and Americans were encouraged Americans to eat *LESS* (wheatless and meatless days), and grow *VICTORY* gardens of vegetables to supplement their diet.
c. The government also encouraged Americans to use less **COAL** and **OIL**, which led to Daylight Savings Time...heatless Mondays
d. The government raised **TAXES** and sold **WAR** bonds to help finance war expenses.

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*All About Liberty Bonds*

**WHAT Are They?**
Liberty Bonds are engraved certificates bearing the guarantee of the Government and People of the United States to repay in gold the full amount loaned, with 4% interest every year.
Liberty Bonds are as safe as the United States.

**WHY Should I Buy Them?**
Because we are at war. Because we must have dollars as well as men in the fight for freedom. Because every Bond you buy helps to win the war. Because they are the safest investment in the world today.

**HOW Can I Buy Them?**
For each $50 subscribed pay:
- $1 down
- $9 on November 15, 1917
- $20 on January 15, 1918

If you wish, you can buy Liberty Bonds on still easier terms, only $1 down and $1 a week for each $50 Bond at many Banks, Trust Companies, Investment Houses, Stores, etc.
You don’t need a bank account to buy a Liberty Bond.

**WHERE Can I Buy Them?**
At any Bank, Trust Company, Investment Banker, or Department Store.
Every dollar you pay goes to the Government. No commissions are charged to you or paid to anyone.

**WHEN Shall I Buy Them?**
Buy them NOW. Subscriptions close October 27, 1917.

*Our soldiers and sailors will GIVE their lives. You are asked only to LEND your money. If YOU can’t fight, your money can. A bond may save a life. A bond will help to end the war.*

**Buy Your Bonds Today**
e. Many people hated **GERMANY** and anything related to the country. People began calling hamburgers “liberty **SAUSAGE**,” sauerkraut was “liberty cabbage,” and many schools quit teaching the German language.
f. Americans were asked to **CONSERVE** other resources. Dresses were made shorter so extra cloth could make uniforms. Families recycled **METALS**.
g. Propaganda was used to **PERSUADE** people to feel a certain way about the war. One example was the use of political cartoons.
The poster was one of the more popular mediums that the government used for propaganda purposes.

Posters were used to: recruit members for the armed forces, the United War Work Campaign, the Red Cross and to encourage citizens at home to purchase Liberty and Victory Loans/Bonds.
GEE!!
I wish I were a man
I'd join the NAVY

United States Navy Recruiting Station

Be Patriotic
Sign your country's pledge to save the food

U.S. Food Administration

Pvt. Treptow's Pledge

He had almost reached his goal when a machine gun dropped him.
In a pocket of his blouse they found his pledge:
"I will fight cheerfully and do my utmost as if the whole issue of the struggle depended on me alone."

You who are not called upon to die:
Subscribe to the

Fourth Liberty Loan
28. On November 11, 1918, Germany signed an armistice that ended the war on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month. This important date was later known as Armistice Day, and eventually Veteran’s Day. They signed the peace treaty called the Treaty of Versailles (pronounced “ver-sigh). Items included in the treaty were based on Wilson’s 14 Points.
THE TREATY OF PEACE
BETWEEN
THE ALLIED AND ASSOCIATED POWERS
AND
GERMANY,
The Protocol annexed thereto, the Agreement respecting
the military occupation of the territories of the Rhine,
AND THE
TREATY
BETWEEN
FRANCE AND GREAT BRITAIN
RESPECTING
Assistance to France in the event of unprovoked
aggression by Germany.
Signed at Versailles, June 28th, 1919.
(With Maps and Signatures in facsimile.)

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GERMANY SIGNS THE ARMISTICE

WASHINGTON, Nov. 11, 3 a.m.—By the Associated Press.—The world war will end this morning at 6 o'clock, Washington time, 11 o'clock Paris time. The armistice was signed by the German representatives at midnight. This announcement was made at 2:50 o'clock this morning. The State Department's announcement simply said: "THE ARMISTICE HAS BEEN SIGNED".

OUTLINE OF TERMS

PRESS DISPATCHES

WASHINGTON, Nov. 11. The armistice terms were signed yesterday at 11:45 a.m. at the Allied headquarters in Paris. The armistice terms were signed by the German representatives at midnight. This announcement was made at 2:50 o'clock this morning.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 11, 1:40 a.m.—The armistice terms were signed yesterday at 11:45 a.m. at the Allied headquarters in Paris. The armistice terms were signed by the German representatives at midnight. This announcement was made at 2:50 o'clock this morning.

TELEPHONE NEWS TO THE PRESS

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PEACE SIGNED, ENDS THE GREAT WAR; GERMANS DEPART STILL PROTESTING; PROHIBITION TILL TROOPS DISBAND


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PEACE SIGNED, ENDS THE GREAT WAR; GERMANS DEPART STILL PROTESTING; PROHIBITION TILL TROOPS DISBAND
a. Germany would have to pay $33 million in damages to other nations.

b) Germany was forced to give up territories/LAND to France, Belgium, Denmark, and Poland.
c. Germany’s army was **REduced** in numbers, they could no longer use submarines or aircraft.
d. Woodrow Wilson shared his 14 Points (principles) for peace in Europe. He played a significant role in PEACE negotiations even though many of his 14 points were ignored by other nations.
e. Wilson helped **REDRAW** state borders in Europe that better reflected nations and groups of people with the same language, ethnic heritage, and **RELIGION**.
f. Set up the **LEAGUE** of Nations to help find **PEACEFUL** ways to solve problems. We didn’t join this organization because we wanted to stay out of other countries’ problems. It was a policy of **ISOLATIONISM**, or being separate from other countries. Some thought it would compromise our right to declare war.

g. We did continue to be involved in world **TRADE** in the 1920s and limited American involvement in world affairs in a series of laws in the 1930s called the Neutrality Acts.
29. Results of the war:

a. Some say the harshness shown to Germany was a major cause of **WW2**.
b. 8 million men died fighting on 3 continents. Millions more were wounded, and 5 million civilians died due to bombs, DISEASE, and hunger. Roughly 1:8 men who served in the war died in the war.
c. Many people were left **HOMELESS** and diseases and hunger were rampant.
CAMPAGNE DE 1914-1918

DERNIER BOMBARDEMENT D’YPRES, — LAST BOMBARDMENT OF YPRES

YPRES. — Les Maisons des Corporations au marché au bétail.
The Corporations Houses to the Cattle market.
30. Other interesting events of the early 1900s:

a) 1904 **ICE CREAM CONES** were invented at the St Louis State Fair
b. 1906 major EARTHQUAKE in San Francisco, CA
c. 1912 the sinking of the **TITANIC** in the icy waters off the coast of Newfoundland.