



WHO ARE THE ARMENIANS?
TRADITIONAL ARMENIAN CULTURE AND HERITAGE

SYMBOLS AND MEMORY-A CLOSE LOOK AT THE FORGET ME NOT FLOWER

(30-50 MINUTES)

ACADEMIC STANDARDS COMMON CORE STATE STANDARDS

4th Grade - 5th Grade

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.4.3.D

Use concrete words and phrases and sensory details to convey experiences and events precisely.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.4.7:

Conduct short research projects that build knowledge through investigation of different aspects of a topic.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.4.2:

Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.

5th Grade

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.5.3:

Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, descriptive details, and clear event sequences.



DESCRIPTION

In this lesson, students will explore the meaning of symbols and how they can be used. Students will understand this concept by taking a close look at the remembrance symbol which honors the Armenian Genocide, the Forget Me Not Flower symbol or Anmoruk. Students will learn about the different parts of this symbol and its connection to Armenian culture and identity. By the end of this lesson, students will create and write about their own remembrance symbol dedicated to someone, something or an experience from the past that holds special meaning in their life.

Note: You may use this lesson guide to support your facilitation of the [Symbols and Memory: A Close Look at the Forget Me Not Flower Powerpoint Presentation](#). Included in this presentation are supporting speaker notes for the educator.

PREREQUISITE SKILLS:

Bubble Maps, Drawing Connections, Research, Knowledge of terms such as ancestry, symbols and remembrance



LESSON OBJECTIVES

Students will be able to:

- Learn about symbols and how they are used.
- Discover the significance of the forget-me-not flower, as a commemorative symbol, for Armenian people around the world.
- Create their own symbol and write a descriptive essay about its meaning and significance



KEY TERMS

Symbol- is a type of visual image that represents an idea, concept or experience.

Remembrance - the act of remembering and idea or memory from the past



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MATERIALS & RESOURCES

TEACHER RESOURCES

[Symbols and Memory: A Close Look at the Forget Me Not Flower Powerpoint](#)

[Outline on the symbolic flower](#)

MATERIALS & RESOURCES

STUDENT MATERIALS

[My Symbol Student Resource](#)

REFERENCES

[Genocide Museum: The Armenian Genocide Museum-Institute](#)

Kharatyan, Lusine, et al.
["Commemoration of the 100th Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide and Its Public Perceptions: Preliminary Observations: Heinrich Böll Stiftung: Tbilisi – South Caucasus Region."](#) Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung, 23 Apr. 2015

[Reference](#) organized by St. Leon Cathedral of the Easter Armenian Church Diocese provides an outline of the details for each part of the symbolic flower

OTHER INFORMATION

The following materials were prepared by the ANCA-WR Education Committee.

For more questions, comments, and concerns: contact us at educationcommittee@ancawr.org



TEACHER GUIDED LESSON NOTES

Introduction

- Begin by having students create a bubble map to describe what they see in the picture of the Forget Me Not Flower symbol (Slide 3-4). Then, have 2-3 students share what they see.
- Next, have students look at the actual forget me not flower next to the remembrance symbol of the Forget Me Not Flower (Slide 5). Ask students to share what they observe. Share that both of the flowers are used as symbols.

Guided Lesson

- Review the definition of a symbol with students and explain that symbols can also be representations of memory, such as a visual representation of someone, something or an event in the past (Slide 6).
- Share with students the special characteristics of the forget me not flower (Slide 7). Then, engage students in a deep understanding of the Forget Me Not Flower as a remembrance symbol for the Armenians (Slide 8). Make the connection that the forget me not flower is used as a symbol of remembrance and it is, therefore, appropriate that this flower is used to honor and remember this history.
- Now, share with students the different parts of the remembrance symbol and how each part represents Armenian culture and identity (Slide 9-12).
- Ask students to share what they found most interesting about what they have learned so far, then ask if they have any questions (Slide 13).
- Next, students will have the opportunity to research more about symbols with a device. Have them search for symbols that have special meaning and stand for someone, something or a memory. Have them take notes of their findings and discuss it with a partner or group share (Slide 14).

Independent Practice

- Now, have students design their own remembrance symbol dedicated to someone, something or an experience in the past that carries special meaning in their life.
- Using the "My Symbol" Student resource, ask them to draw their symbol and write about its meaning and importance. Then, have students synthesize their writing in a descriptive essay (Slide 15).
- Finally, have students share their final work with their peers. As concluding remarks, have students share what they learned from their peers and/or what they most enjoyed from this lesson.