

Core Skills Analysis

Social Studies

- Allison learned about the tradition of honoring veterans and fallen soldiers through the placement of wreaths, connecting to national remembrance practices.
- She gained an understanding of the symbolic meaning of wreaths in the context of patriotism and respect in American culture.
- Participation in this activity helped Allison recognize the importance of community service and civic responsibility as a member of the Girl Scouts.
- The activity introduced Allison to elements of historical commemoration and how collective acts can express national gratitude.

Tips

To deepen Allison's understanding, consider exploring the history of Veterans Day and Memorial Day with her through books and visits to local memorials or museums. Encourage her to write a short reflection or poem about what the wreath tradition means to her personally. Incorporate a visual arts project where Allison can create her own wreath using different materials, symbolizing gratitude or remembrance. Additionally, discussing the role of community and citizenship can help reinforce the value of her participation in the Girl Scouts activity.

Book Recommendations

- [America's White Table](#) by Margaret Peters: A poignant story that explains the symbolism behind a veterans' memorial white table, perfect for helping children understand remembrance.
- [Wreath for Emmett Till](#) by Gloria Sydnor: An illustrated book that teaches about honoring history and memory through a wreath-laying ceremony.
- [The Poppy Lady: Moina Belle Michael and Her Tribute to Veterans](#) by Barbara Elizabeth Walsh: This biography recounts the story of the woman who inspired the use of poppies to honor fallen soldiers, connecting well to themes of remembrance and symbols.

Learning Standards

- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.2.3: Describe the connection between a series of historical events, scientific ideas or concepts, or steps in technical procedures in a text.
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.2.1: Write opinion pieces in which they introduce the topic or book they are writing about, state an opinion, supply reasons that support the opinion, use linking words, and provide a conclusion.
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.2.1: Participate in collaborative conversations with diverse partners about grade 2 topics and texts with peers and adults in small and larger groups.
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.2.2: Recount or describe key ideas or details from a text read aloud or information presented orally or through other media.

Try This Next

- Worksheet: Label parts of a wreath and write its symbolic meanings in your own words.
- Writing Prompt: Write a thank-you note to a veteran explaining why their service is important to you.
- Art Project: Design and decorate a paper wreath with personal symbols of gratitude and remembrance.

Growth Beyond Academics

This activity likely fostered Allison's sense of respect and gratitude, building empathy by connecting

her directly to ways communities honor service members. The hands-on participation probably enhanced her confidence in contributing meaningfully in a group setting like the Girl Scouts.