

## Objective

By the end of this lesson, the student will be able to identify and understand the importance of key battles during World War I.

## Materials and Prep

- Computer or tablet with internet access
- Pen and paper for note-taking
- Printed maps of Europe during World War I
- Prior knowledge of the causes and events of World War I

## Activities

- **Activity 1: Battle Map** - Have the student use the printed maps to mark the locations of important battles during World War I. They can use different colors or symbols to represent the different countries involved.
- **Activity 2: Battle Analysis** - Choose one of the important battles and ask the student to research and analyze the key events, strategies, and outcomes of that battle. They can create a short written report or a presentation to share their findings.
- **Activity 3: Role Play** - Assign the student a specific role (e.g., a soldier, a commander, a civilian) and ask them to imagine and describe their experiences during a particular battle. Encourage them to think about the emotions, challenges, and impact of the battle on their character.

## Talking Points

- **The Spark:** "World War I began in 1914 after the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria-Hungary. This event triggered a series of alliances and conflicts that eventually led to a global war."
- **Trench Warfare:** "One of the defining characteristics of World War I was the extensive use of trenches. Soldiers on both sides dug deep trenches to protect themselves from enemy fire."
- **The Western Front:** "The Western Front was a major theater of war during World War I. It stretched across Belgium and France, where intense battles took place."
- **Battle of the Somme:** "The Battle of the Somme was one of the bloodiest battles in history. It took place in 1916 and lasted for several months. Thousands of soldiers lost their lives."
- **Battle of Verdun:** "The Battle of Verdun was another significant battle during World War I. It lasted for over 9 months and resulted in heavy casualties on both sides."
- **Impact on Civilians:** "World War I had a profound impact on civilians. Many cities and towns were destroyed, and families faced hardships due to food shortages and displacement."