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## ARMY MUSEUM

LEARNING

What was life really like for a soldier in the First World War?



# A SOLDIER'S LIFE

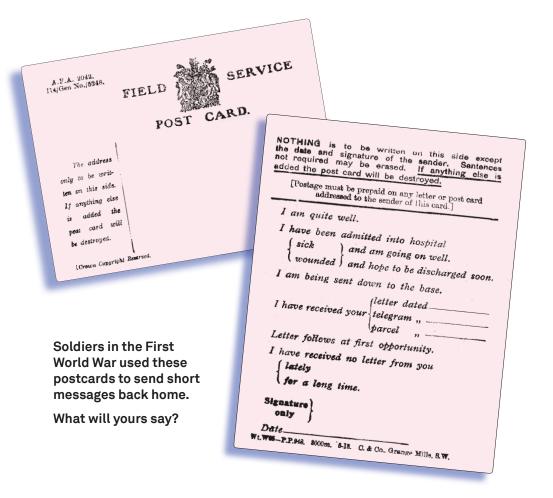
STAGE 2

**SCHOOLS TRAIL** 

### A SOLDIER'S LIFE

What was life really like for many of the soldiers who fought in the First World War? Find out by following this trail to find some amazing objects and learn the fascinating stories they can tell us.

This trail takes you to five different galleries in the Museum and you can visit them in any order.



#### IN **SOCIETY** GALLERY

Millions of men and women left home to serve during the First World War leaving their loved ones. Their families and friends at home wanted news about them so how did soldiers keep in contact?

Find the Hands Across the Sea postcard (HINT: Look for the display called Secrecy and censorship) What is it made of?	
Who would a soldier buy a card like this for? What would they write	on it?
Now use the touch screen next to yo	our left.
Find the picture of an official field What things were soldiers able to sa	
How would you have felt if you recei	yed this but nothing also?

Discuss with a friend.

#### IN **SOLDIER** GALLERY

Every day, soldiers had to keep their equipment clean, cook and wash – sometimes in very difficult conditions.



Keeping clean and looking smart was really important. Find the object on the right

(HINT: It's near the display of helmets at the back of the gallery.)

	What is it called?	
	What was it used for?	
	Now go to the display about <u>Campaign life</u> . Lice were a big problem for soldiers in the First World War. They would get into their clothes and cause Trench Fever. Can you find something that soldiers would use to protect against lice?	
	SOLDIER'S T P	
What other problems might soldiers have in the trenches? Discuss with a friend.		
	Now go to your left and look at the display about soldiers' food. Name two types of food that soldiers ate during the First World War below:	
	Do you think it would be tasty or healthy? Discuss with a friend.	

Find the plates on the wall.

How much protein, fat and carbohydrates did soldiers eat every day in the First World War? Draw a pie chart showing this on the plate opposite:



#### IN **ARMY** GALLERY

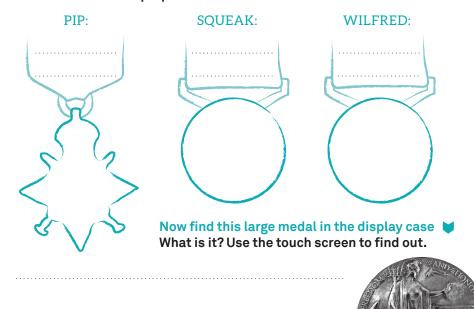
Many different people worked together for Britain during the First World War. Men and women from all around the world served in different ways.

Every soldier who served throughout the First World War received three medals. Why do you think medals are given to soldiers? Discuss with a friend.

Go to the Women in the British Army display at the back of the gallery.

Use the touch screen to spot the three medals given to soldiers.

They were nicknamed 'Pip, Squeak and Wilfred'. **Draw the three medals below and add their proper names:** 



Now look to your left and find the painting of Subadar Khudadad Khan. He is wearing a special medal on a crimson ribbon called the Victoria Cross or VC. This is the highest award for bravery in the British Army. Use the touch screen to find out how he earned his medal.

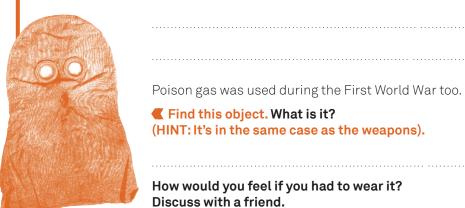
#### IN **BATTLE** GALLERY

Soldiers fought all over the world during the First World War. Battlefields were dangerous places where soldiers risked their lives.

Many new weapons were used on the battlefield during the First World War. Walk through the gallery to the Total war section and look in the large case full of weapons.

Can you spot this strange-looking rifle? Use the touch screen to find out about it.

What is it called? What was it for?



Find this object. What is it? (HINT: It's in the same case as the weapons).

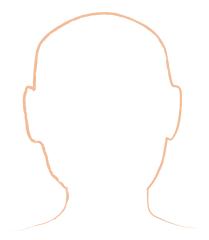
How would you feel if you had to wear it? Discuss with a friend.

Now find the display called A new weapon (HINT: it's in the same room).

Tanks were used in battle for he first time in 1916.

Can you spot something that tank crewmen would have worn during the First World War to protect their faces?

Draw a picture of it here:



#### IN **INSIGHT** GALLERY

Today, we use objects in museums to learn about the past. They can provide us with clues and evidence about the First World War.

Go to the display about Germany.

Can you find the First World War helmet? What is it called?

Draw a picture of it on the soldier helow:



British soldiers collected thousands of things like this during the war and brought them home. Sometimes the museum doesn't really know the full story.

Can you imagine how this helmet found its way to the museum? Discuss with a friend.

You have now visited all five of the Museum galleries. There are still many more things to discover!