All about Veterans Day

November 11th is Veterans Day. A veteran is any soldier who has served his/her country. Some people think Veterans Day is just for soldiers that were killed in war, but that is not true. Memorial Day in May is the day we remember those who died. On Veterans Day we honor all soldiers.

Thirty-five countries fought in World War I to defend freedom for millions of people. They fought for five years, from 1914 to 1918. The United States fought in the war from 1917 to 1918. Finally the countries stopped fighting. The leaders signed an armistice. The armistice meant that the war was over. They signed the armistice on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month. Americans were very happy to hear about the armistice. No more soldiers would be hurt in the war. The soldiers could come home. People went out into the streets and laughed and danced. They blew horns and whistles and rang bells. They sang songs. They thought that there would never be another war. President Wilson made November 11th a holiday to remember the end of the war. The holiday was called **Armistice Day**. At eleven o'clock in the morning, everyone stopped doing whatever they were doing. People were completely silent for one minute. This minute was to remember all the soldiers who have died in wars.

 The US was in three more wars: World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War. The name of the holiday was changed to **Veterans Day**.

1954, President Eisenhower signing HR7786, changing Armistice Day to Veterans Day.

Americans remember and honor all the veterans on November 11th every year.

Information compiled from the site: www.va.gov