

“BOOKMARK!” HIGHLIGHTS BOOKS FOR A VARIETY OF GRADE LEVELS AROUND A PARTICULAR THEME.

In preparation for Remembrance Day, *Bookmark!* offers a range of books on war, conflict, peace and remembrance in many parts of the world, compiled by CCBC Library Coordinator Meghan Howe. For the CCBC’s World War I reading list (compiled in 2010) and World War II reading list (compiled in 2011), visit www.bookcentre.ca/resources_librarians.

The Worlds of War

PICTURE BOOKS AND EARLY READERS FOR KINDERGARTEN TO GRADE 3

A Bear in War

written by Stephanie Innes and Harry Endrulat illustrated by Brian Deines (Pajama Press, 2012)

The true story of how a tiny stuffed bear named Teddy became an enduring memento of a Canadian family’s love during World War I is being re-released in September 2012. Teddy now lives in a glass display case at the Canadian War Museum and is one of its most beloved exhibits.

The Little Yellow Bottle

written by Angèle Delaunois translated by Barbara Creary illustrated by Christine Delezenne (Second Story Press, 2011)

Marwa and Ahmad’s lives are changed forever when Ahmad unknowingly picks up a bomb while they are playing. Both children struggle to recover and regain hope, despite their grave injuries. This title is also available in French as *Une petite bouteille jaune*.

A Poppy Is to Remember

written by Heather Patterson illustrated by Ron Lightburn (Scholastic Canada, 2007)

Soothing words aimed specifically at young

children explain the symbolism of the poppy. This gorgeous book, with paintings by award-winning illustrator Ron Lightburn, includes information on Canada’s wartime and peacekeeping endeavours, and the notable poem, *In Flanders Fields*.

Proud as a Peacock, Brave as a Lion

written by Jane Barclay illustrated by Renné Benoit (Tundra Books, 2009)

In response to his grandson’s questions, a granddad talks about how, as a very young man, he was as proud as a peacock in uniform, busy as a beaver on his Atlantic crossing and brave as a lion as he charged into battle. The room is filled with an imaginary menagerie as the child thinks about the different aspects of war.

Raffi’s New Friend (First Novels)

written by Sylvain Meunier translated by Sarah Cummins illustrated by Élisabeth Eudes-Pascal (Formac Publishing, 2010)

Raffi knows all about being different, so when the new girl is teased about her head scarf, Raffi knows he can help her. Both Raffi and the bullies learn from the new girl what it’s like to live through war. Also available in French as *La tourterelle triste*.

JUNIOR NON-FICTION AND FICTION FOR GRADES 4 TO 8

At Vimy Ridge: Canada’s Greatest World War I Victory

written by Hugh Brewster (Scholastic Canada, 2007)

Brewster honours the men who fought at Vimy Ridge as well as those who gave their lives. Contains photographs, illustrations, glossary, index and selected bibliography. A great companion to this book is

Brewster’s *Dieppe: Canada’s Darkest Day of World War II*. Fiction lovers will enjoy the author’s *Prisoner of Dieppe: World War II* in the I Am Canada series

Canada’s Wars: An Illustrated History

written by Jonathan Webb (Scholastic Canada, 2010)

From the 1884 Nile Expedition to the Gulf War, Canadian soldiers have fought and died in many wars. This overview offers detailed stories of combat and the home front, and of heroes both known and unsung. Stunning photographs, paintings, archival posters and artifacts brings these many historical moments to life.

The Kids Book of Canada at War (Kids Books of...)

written by Elizabeth MacLeod illustrated by John Mantha (Kids Can Press, 2007)

This book looks at Canada’s battles and wars and at the people who fought them. Meet heroic Canadians, learn about the technology of war and read chilling first-person accounts from soldiers on the battlefields. Illustrations, photographs, sidebars, timeline and index included.

Last Airlift: A Vietnamese Orphan’s Rescue from War

written by Marsha Forchuk Skrypuch (Pajama Press, 2011)

The last Canadian airlift operation to leave Saigon arrived in Toronto on April 13, 1975. Son Thi Anh Tuyet was one of 57 orphans on that flight. Based on personal interviews and enhanced with archive photos, Tuyet’s story of the Saigon orphanage and her flight to Canada is an emotional and suspenseful journey.



Shimmerdogs

written by Dianne Linden (ThistleDown Press, 2008)

Seven-year-old Mike has experienced much in his life — his mother is a Canadian peacekeeper in Bosnia, he’s living with his uncle and going to a new school and his elderly neighbour dies. When he learns about shimmerdogs — dogs brought to earth from the moon to bring peace — he begins to heal. A prequel to *Peacekeepers*.

Shot at Dawn: World War I (I Am Canada)

written by John Wilson (Scholastic Canada, 2011)

A shell-shocked soldier is sentenced to death for desertion. During the night before his execution, he recounts the events leading up to his arrest. Wilson has written extensively on war. His other books include *And in the Morning*, *Battle Scars*, *Flags of our Fathers* and *Death on the River*.

The Unknown Soldier

written by Linda Granfield (Scholastic Canada, 2008)

“Loved and were loved, and now we lie / In Flanders fields.” Learn how unknown soldiers are honoured worldwide with monuments, memorials, tombs, tributes and symbols. See how genetic identification leads to fewer “unknowns.” Includes photos, artwork, glossary, index and timeline.

When Elephants Fight: The Lives of Children in Conflict in Afghanistan, Bosnia, Sri Lanka, Sudan and Uganda

written by Eric Walters and Adrian Bradbury (Orca Book Publishers, 2008)

Meet five children whose lives are affected by conflict raging in their respective nations of Afghanistan, Bosnia, Sri Lanka, Sudan

and Uganda. Maps and facts on regional history, and causes and results of the conflicts lend context to their stories.

SENIOR NON-FICTION AND FICTION FOR GRADES 7 AND UP

Beyond Bullets: A Photo Journal of Afghanistan

written by Rafal Gerszak with Dawn Hunter photos by Rafal Gerszak (Annick Press, 2011)

Rafal Gerszak’s photos and journals offer a truly insightful look into Afghanistan and its people. A photographer who spent a year embedded with American troops but who also travelled to Afghanistan on his own, Gerszak gives a moving and eye-opening picture of this country.

The Bite of the Mango

written by Mariatu Kamara with Susan McClelland (Annick Press, 2008)

Mariatu Kamara was 12 and living in a small village in Sierra Leone when young rebels cut off her hands. Discover her astounding journey from her war-torn country to a new life in Canada and a role as a UNICEF Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict. Winner of the 2009 Norma Fleck Award for Canadian Children’s Non-Fiction.

Chanda’s Wars

written by Allan Stratton (HarperTrophyCanada, 2008)

Caring for her brother and sister after her mother dies, Chanda travels to her grandparents’ village, looking for their support. When rebels kidnap her siblings to serve as soldiers in a civil war, Chanda turns to a troubled young neighbour for help. A sequel to the award-winning *Chanda’s Secrets*.

Children of War: Voices of Iraqi Refugees

written by Deborah Ellis (Groundwood Books, 2009)

Twenty-three Iraqi children, aged eight to 19, confide what it means to be a refugee. An introduction offers a historical overview and sets the context for the children’s accounts. A glossary, a map and further-information suggestions are included. See also Ellis’s *Off to War: Voices of Soldiers’ Children*.

Passchendaele: Canada’s Triumph and Tragedy on the Fields of Flanders

written by Norman Leach (Coteau Books, 2008)

The Battle of Passchendaele has come to epitomize the horrors of World War I, but also uncommon leadership and extraordinary heroism. This thoroughly illustrated, accessible account of the battle tells the story of Canada’s triumph and tragedy. Look for Leach’s new book, *1812: Three Voices* in the fall of this year.

Thunder Over Kandahar

written by Sharon E. McKay photos by Rafal Gerszak (Annick Press, 2010)

When the Taliban burn down their village school, Tamanna and Yasmine decide to flee. Separated after travelling through dangerous mountain passes, they lose the one thing that has helped them survive — each other. Features stunning black-and-white photos, a list of Afghan terms and a historical timeline. See also McKay’s *War Brothers* about child soldiers in Uganda.