

# What was it like to serve in WW1?



KEY VOCABULARY	
Assassination	—the action of killing someone for political or religious reasons.
Abdicate	—to give up the throne
Trench	—a long, narrow ditch
No man's land	—The space between enemy trenches on WW1 battlefields
Invasion	—entering a country by force
Treaty	—an agreement between countries
Cavalry	—Soldiers who fought on horseback
Surrender	—to give up and admit defeat
Frontline	—the military line closest to the enemy
Conscription	— forced to join the army
barbed wire	—razor wire fencing
Empire	—several countries with one leader
Alliance	- a friendship between countries

Key facts
-32 countries involved
-16 million deaths
-23 million wounded
-Lasted 4 years
-2 sides (The Allies + The Central Powers)
-Known as The Great War
-Chemical weapons first used

You might like to...
...look into your family history. Did any of your relatives serve in the Great War?
...visit the castle museum to learn more about the conflict.

Timeline
28 Jun 1914: Archbishop Franz Ferdinand (Prince of Austria-Hungary) assassinated by Serbia.
28 July 1914: Austria-Hungary declares war on Serbia
31 Jul 1914: Russia prepares to support Serbia
1-3 Aug 1914: Germany declares war with France, Belgium and Russia
4 Aug 1914: Britain declares war on Germany
1 Jul 1916: The Battle of the Somme begins
7 Dec 1916: Lloyd George becomes Prime Minister of Britain.
6 April 1917: US enters the war by declaring war with Germany
11 Nov 1918: Germany surrenders and war is over
28 Jun 1919: Treaty of Versailles signed.

## QUESTIONS TO DEEPEN YOUR LEARNING

Character	Critical Thinking	Creativity	Communication	Citizenship	Collaboration
What qualities would it take to serve in the war?	Who was the biggest loser from the conflict?	How could the conflict have been avoided?	Can you present the timeline in a different way?	What alliances does Britain currently have around the world?	Ask your family about the effect of WW1 on your family.