

Youth Activities – November 2026

Program Goals

Sponsoring & Working with Youth Groups – Patriotism through Literacy – Illustrating America

DEADLINE FOR ILLUSTRATING AMERICA

DECEMBER 15, 2026

Engage YOUTH with Veterans Day through hands-on learning, creative projects, service, and meaningful connections with veterans.

BUILD KNOWLEDGE AND AWARENESS

Help youth understand the history and purpose of Veterans Day.

- **History projects:** Research a U.S. conflict and its effects on veterans, then present the findings.
- **Guest speakers:** Invite local veterans to share their experiences and build empathy and respect.
- **Documentaries or videos:** Show age-appropriate films about veterans and follow with guided discussions.

Plan Meaningful Activities

Use interactive, creative, and service-focused activities:

- **Letter-writing campaigns:** Write thank-you letters to veterans in nursing homes or VA facilities.
- **Art projects:** Create thank-you cards, patriotic banners, or flag-themed artwork.
- **Storytelling:** Read books about veterans, then write or illustrate original stories.
- **Flag etiquette:** Teach the proper handling and display of the U.S. flag.



Connect Youth with Veterans' Needs

Service-learning projects deepen engagement:

- **Care packages:** Have youth gather needed items and assemble packages for veterans.
- **Interviews:** Encourage youth to record conversations with relatives or local veterans and compile them into a class documentary.
- **Fundraisers:** Organize student-led events that support veterans' causes.

Build Community and Celebrate

Make Veterans Day a visible, shared occasion:

- **Ceremonies:** Feature patriotic music, readings, and performances.
- **Community displays:** Showcase veterans' stories, photographs, and student artwork.
- **Virtual events:** Offer online discussions, quizzes, or creative challenges for remote participants.

Encourage Continued Engagement

- **Reflection:** Ask students to describe what they learned and how they can honor veterans year-round.
- **Ongoing service:** Encourage continued volunteering or mentorship through the VFW Auxiliary.

Tip: Match activities to participants' ages. Younger students may prefer crafts and stories, while high school students can lead research, interviews, and service projects.

Combining education, creativity, service, and community helps youth participate meaningfully in Veterans Day and embrace its values of gratitude, respect, and patriotism.



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Growing Stronger for our Veterans

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