



EDUCATIONAL
TOURS



Make a connection to history: Researching Canadian soldiers

Whether you're using this guide before a history tour or in the classroom—our soldier pairing activity gives you the perfect opportunity to help students develop a personal connection to Canadian history.

Ready to get started? We've outlined every step.

Getting started

1. In order to verify the cemetery your group wishes to research, give your Tour Consultant a call at 1-800-387-1460. If there is a specific cemetery that you would like to visit, please speak with your Tour Consultant to identify whether this works with your current tour itinerary.
2. Once you've confirmed the cemetery you will be visiting, visit the [Commonwealth War Graves Commission website](#).
3. Use the 'Find a Cemetery' search field on the home page of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission website, and type in the cemetery indicated by your Tour Consultant.
4. Click on the cemetery and research the history of the site and gather a list of soldiers buried there.
5. Work with your group to assign individual soldiers based on their interests.
6. Have each person research their assignment considering such questions as:
 - a) Where is this individual from? What is their story?
 - b) Why would someone in their position enlist in the military?
 - c) How would this service person's life be similar or different from yours?
7. On your tour, EF will work to include a visit to your assigned site* to provide an opportunity for you and your group to reflect. During this time, you may do a self-facilitated ceremony as a group or allow your group to explore the site individually.

*pending tour scheduling and itinerary. Check with your Tour Consultant for full details.



Additional Resources

- Visit our [History Resource Centre](#). Whether you're looking forward to your tour or still deciding on a destination, we've brought together a ton of great resources to help you get the most out of your EF history tour—and your classroom. Plus, we've provided some exclusive educational resources to give you a broader perspective of our programming and destinations.
- A resource to consider using in conjunction with this activity is the Memory Project, created by our partners at Historica Canada. [The Memory Project](#) brings veterans from all over Canada to interact with your group and heighten their understanding of military service.
- There are more specific databases where you can look up soldiers, such as the [Library and Archives Canada—Military Heritage Research](#).
- The Canadian government has compiled a list of resources that can help deepen your soldier research and lessons at [Lest We Forget: Cenotaph Research](#).
- Valour Canada helps educators bring Canada's military history into their classrooms with [educational modules](#) that follow Canada's path to war.
- See how researching one soldier [changed educator David's life forever](#).
- Read this CBC article about a high school student connecting with a World War II soldier's [long-lost relative](#).



“Our school has made it our goal to recognize the stories and sacrifices of each soldier buried [in Thélus Military Cemetery].”

- David, Teacher, PEI

