



CLOVIS  
VETERANS  
MEMORIAL DISTRICT

## 2025 Veterans Day Art Contest Teacher's Guide- ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

### 2025: “United We Stand”

The mission of the Clovis Veterans Memorial District (CVMD) is to provide a permanent living memorial honoring U.S. Military and Veterans; provide facilities and support programs to promote a legacy of service for preserving our community's and country's foundational ideals. Veterans Day is an opportunity to honor and give thanks to those who have served or are serving in the military, those who preserve the American way of life.

The resources included in this Teacher's Guide can be used to talk to your class about the history of Veterans Day and introduce them to this year's theme: “United We Stand.”

#### **History of Veterans Day:**

Veterans Day is held on November 11<sup>th</sup>, which began as a celebration of peace after World War I ended. It was originally called Armistice Day, to celebrate the truce signed between America and Germany during World War I. In 1954 the name was changed to Veterans Day, to honor all veterans.

*Resources for teaching your students about Veterans Day:*

*The Veterans Day Visitor* by Peter Catalanotto

*Veterans: Heroes in Our Neighborhood* by Valeri Pfundstein

[Veterans Day and the Meaning of Sacrifice](#)

#### **What is the history of the phrase United We Stand?**

The phrase “*United We Stand*” has been an important part of American history for centuries. It first appeared during the Revolutionary War in a song called *The Liberty Song*, reminding the colonists that they had to work together to win their freedom. Since then, it has been used during the Civil War, both World Wars, and most recently after the attacks of September 11, 2001, as a way to show that America is strongest when people stand together. This year, as we celebrate the Clovis Veterans Memorial District's 80th Anniversary, “*United We Stand*” reminds us that our community, like our nation, honors and remembers veterans by coming together in unity.

#### **What is the history of the Clovis Veterans Memorial District?**

The Clovis Veterans Memorial District was created in 1946, just after World War II, when the people of Clovis wanted a special place to honor those who had served and sacrificed for our country. Over the years, the District has grown into a center for the community, providing space

for veterans' organizations, civic groups, schools, and families to gather. Its is centered on the ideals of **honoring veterans, educating the community, and inspiring future generations**. For almost 80 years, the District has kept that promise by hosting events like Memorial Day and Veterans Day ceremonies, supporting local veterans, and sharing history through exhibits and programs at the Community Heritage Center.

### **Starting a conversation...**

Introduce Veterans Day to your students, and the reason we celebrate our Veterans. Review what the history of the theme United We Stand and the Clovis Veterans Memorial District, and what it means to your students.

Discuss with the students.

- What does the phrase "United We Stand" make you think of?
- How do people show united in your school, family, or community?
- What symbols or images remind you of America standing together?
- How have veterans helped protect unity and freedom in America?
- How does celebrating the Clovis Veterans Memorial District's 80th Anniversary connect to the idea of unity and honoring veterans?

### **Resources**

*My First Election Day Adventure: A Children's Storybook about Voting* by Ovenda Simon

*Grandad Bud: A Veterans Day Story* by Sharon Ferry

[National Constitution Center's Freedom Day Curriculum Guide](#)

[Teaching Laws, Rights, & Responsibilities](#)

## **United We Stand:**

### **"United We Stand" Prompt:**

For 80 years, the Clovis Veterans Memorial District has been a place where our community comes together to honor and remember veterans. The District was created in 1946, after World War II, to recognize the service and sacrifice of those who defended our freedom. Since then, it has stood as a symbol of unity—hosting events, sharing stories, and inspiring new generations to value service. This year's theme, "United We Stand," is a reminder that just as our community has stood together for eight decades, our nation is strongest when "United We Stand."

Create and submit an illustration/drawing around the theme "United We Stand."

### **How to Enter:**

Submit your artwork with Entry Form to the Visual & Performing Arts Department- 1690 David E. Cook Way, Clovis, CA 93611. If you have any questions regarding the contest, please call the Clovis Veterans Memorial District at (559) 299-0471.

**Related History-Social Science Content Standards for California Public Schools & Common Core Standards:**

*Kindergarten:*

K.2 Student recognize national and state symbols and icons such as the national and state flags, the bald eagle, and the Statue of Liberty.

K.6 1. Identify the purpose of, and the people and events honored in, commemorative holidays, including the human struggles that were the basis for the events (e.g., Veteran's Day...)

*1<sup>st</sup> Grade:*

1.3 2. Understand the significance of our national holidays and the heroism and achievements of the people associated with them.

*2<sup>nd</sup> Grade*

2.1 1. Trace the history of a family through the use of primary and secondary sources, including artifacts, photographs, interviews, and documents.

*3<sup>rd</sup> Grade*

3.3 Students draw from historical and community resources to organize the sequence of local historical events.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.3.7: Conduct short research projects that build knowledge about a topic.

*4<sup>th</sup> Grade*

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.4.7: Conduct short research projects that build knowledge through investigation of different aspects of a topic.

*5<sup>th</sup> Grade*

CCSS-ELA-Literacy.RI.5.9: Integrate information from several texts on the same topic in order to write or speak about the subject knowledgeably.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.4.7: Conduct short research projects that that uses several sources to build knowledge through investigation of different aspects of a topic.