

Lamont Books Standing Order

August 2014

Teacher Notes and Activities

One Minute's Silence

By David Metzenthen & Illustrated by Michael Camilleri

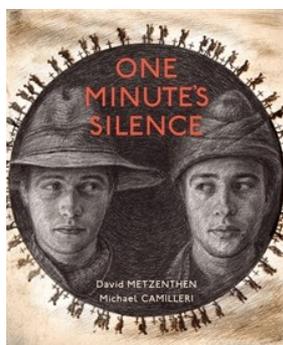
Publisher: Allen & Unwin

ISBN 9781743316245

\$29.99

Picture Book of
the Month

In one minute of silence you can imagine sprinting up the beach in Gallipoli in 1915 with the fierce fighting Diggers, but can you imagine standing beside the brave battling Turks as they defended their homeland from the cliffs above...In the silence that follows a war long gone, you can see what the soldiers saw, you can feel what the soldiers felt. And if you try, you might be able to imagine the enemy, and see that he is not so different from you...In *One Minute's Silence*, you are the story, and the story is yours - to imagine, remember and honour the brothers in arms on both sides of the conflict, heroes who shed their blood and lost their lives. A moving and powerful reflection on the meaning of Remembrance Day.



Teacher notes have been taken from those prepared by the publisher, Allen & Unwin. A full version is available at www.allenandunwin.com, plus there is also a full illustrator's commentary available.

This book is recommended for those aged 8 +.

Themes:

- Gallipoli, ANZAC Day & World War I
- Turkey in World War I
- Turkish History and Culture
- Anti-War Protest
- Australian History
- Returned Soldiers and Veterans

Discussion Points & Activities:

- What is Anzac Day? Why do we celebrate a tragic loss in battle?
- 'A Period of Silence' is observed on Anzac Day and Remembrance Day to commemorate those who have lost their lives to war. What does this moment mean? Does it have significance for you? Invite students to express in words what silence means to those who observe it in this way.
- The commemoration of Anzac Day at Anzac Cove, Gallipoli, has been steadily growing in popularity, to the point where for the centenary year there was a 'lottery' to decide who could attend. Why do Australians flock to this ceremony?
- Research the role played by the Turkish people in WWI.
- Invite students to study Turkish history and culture and to deliver an address about it.
- Come up with a slogan and poster to protest against war.
- What is a 'conscientious objection'? Discuss the power of peaceful protest.
- Australia is a county still attached to the Commonwealth and to the European heritage of those who settled here in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, despite its very multicultural population. How much was that responsible for our engagement in WWI and indeed in subsequent wars?
- Invite your grandparents to speak about their memories of anyone they were descended from who experienced WWI.
- The conclusion of a story is important in cementing its themes. What does the conclusion of this book suggest?