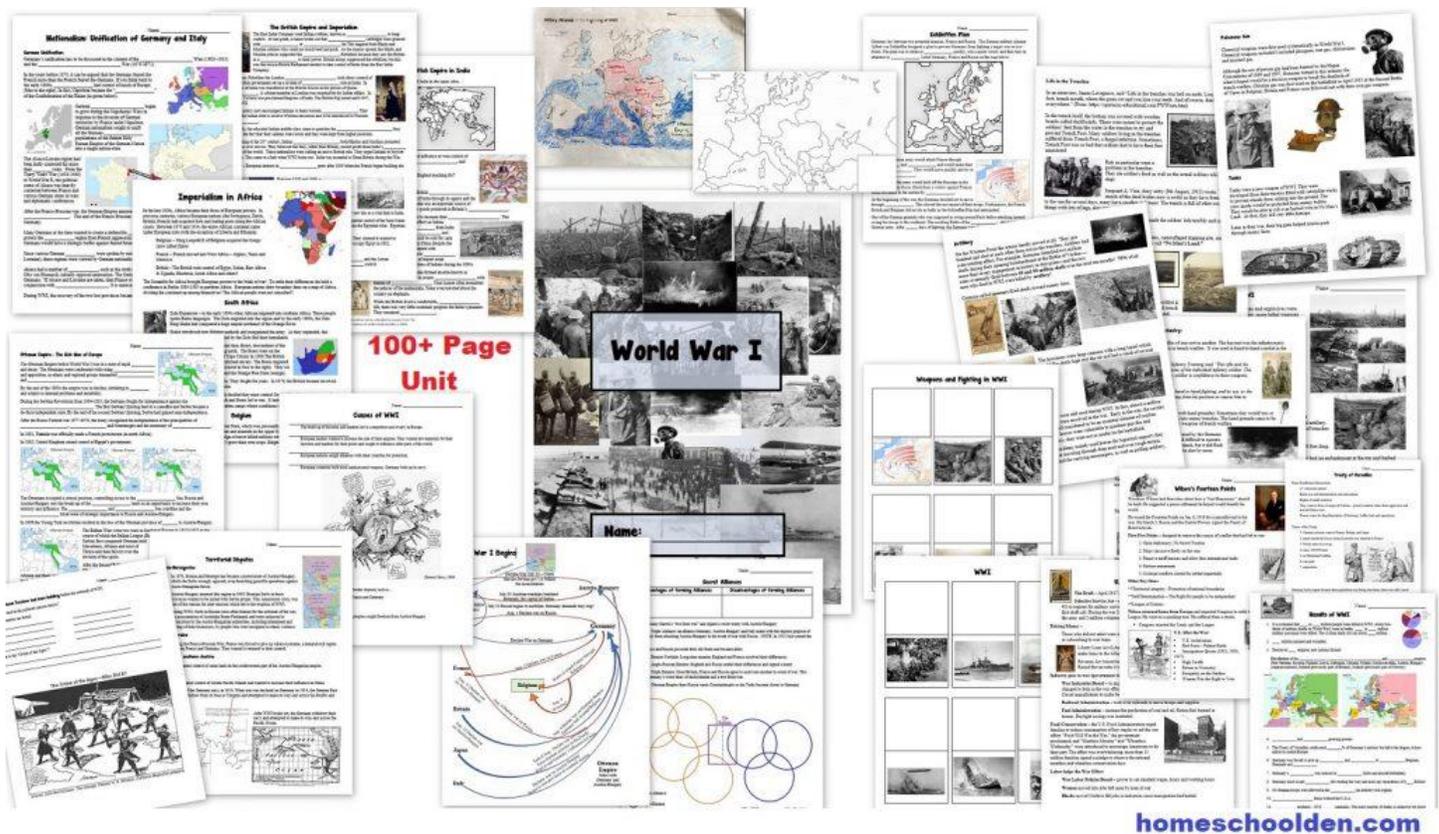


# 100+ Page World War I Packet

Made by Liesl, homeschoolden.com

This collage features a variety of educational resources for World War I. At the top center is a large map of Europe with the title "Military Alliances in the Beginning of WWI". To the left, there are several text pages: "Nationalism: Unification of Germany and Italy", "The British Empire and Imperialism", "Fish Empire in India", "Imperialism in Africa", "South Africa", "Ottoman Empire - The Sick Man of Europe", "Belgium", "Causes of WWI", "Territorial Disputes", and "The Causes of the Arms Race (Who Did It?)". In the center, there is a large photo of soldiers in a trench with the text "World War I" overlaid. To the right, there are more text pages: "Schlieffen Plan", "Life in the Trenches", "Weapons and Fighting in WWI", "Munich's Fourteen Points", "Results of WWI", "The Lusitania", "The Battle of the Marne", "The Battle of Verdun", "The Battle of Passchendaele", "The Battle of the Somme", "The Battle of Tannenberg", "The Battle of the Ypres", "The Battle of the Marne", "The Battle of Verdun", "The Battle of Passchendaele", "The Battle of the Somme", "The Battle of Tannenberg", "The Battle of the Ypres". There are also several diagrams, including a Venn diagram titled "Secret Alliances" and a flowchart titled "War I Begins". The bottom right corner features a large map of the world with the text "homeschoolden.com".

# 100+ Page World War I Packet



We have just finished our huge study of World War I and I am finally ready to share this 100+page **WWI unit** with you!

Our World War I Unit starts with a study of **imperialism** and **nationalism**, dives into the **causes of World War I** with a close look at **militarism**, territorial disputes, and the complicated **secret alliances** of this period. We talked about the **Triple Alliance** and the **Triple Entente**... and did a lot of map work in connection to all of those themes (imperialism, nationalism, and the military alliances prior to WWI). Once we covered the causes of WWI, we took a look at some of the key **battles** and spent time looking at the **weapons** and **strategies** used in WWI. We spent quite a bit of time talking about the complicated events of 1917 -- the **Russian Revolution** and the **U.S. entering the war**. We spent time on the **U.S. war effort** and **Woodrow Wilson's efforts for world peace with his 14 Points**. We spent a couple of days wrapping up the WWI unit by talking about the **Treaty of Versailles**, the **results of the war**, and the new map of Europe.

We did this unit with my kids who are (almost) 11, 13 and 15. Because of the complexity of the topic, I would say this unit is best for upper middle school and high school. (In fact, some of this material is from when I taught AP history and history on the college level.) My youngest definitely thought parts of the unit were hard (because it touches on topics like socialism/communism and has confusing vocabulary at times (reparation payments!). That said, I added in some interactive notebook pieces and various map activities that kept her engaged, but I would recommend this more for older students (closer to the ages of my 13 and 15 year olds).

I'll go into more depth down below, but the kinds of materials in this unit includes: teacher notes and student fill-in-the-blank notebook pages; map work (specifically on imperialism, pre-WWI military alliances, post WWI Europe); some interactive notebook pages.

A question I'm often asked regarding our units: Do I need to buy a specific textbook or book to go with these units? No, these units are meant to supplement whatever curriculum or textbook (or books from the library) you choose. There are extensive notes provided, so you do not have to do extra research in order to use this resource. The teacher notes provided can be read together with your student/s or you can read over the teacher notes while your students use fill-in-the-blank type pages that accompany them. For the interactive notebook pages, students can use the cut-and-paste notes provided or can do research and write in their own answers.

**Now, onto the topics and types of materials in this World War I Packet:**

In order to understand how tensions that developed in Europe resulted in a WORLD war, students have to have some understanding of some key concepts: imperialism and nationalism.

Before jumping into World War I, we spent quite a bit of time talking about imperialism. We talked in depth about British imperialism and the growth of the British Empire – in particular their take-over of India and Egypt/the Suez Canal. We watched a *Passage to India* (though it is set after WWI, the themes this movie explores fits in perfectly with our unit). We talked to a lesser extent about Africa and the Scramble for Africa, though if you have the time there are fabulous resources for exploring that topic.

**Imperialism Notebook Pages**

The collage displays several pages from an 'Imperialism' notebook. Key elements include:
 

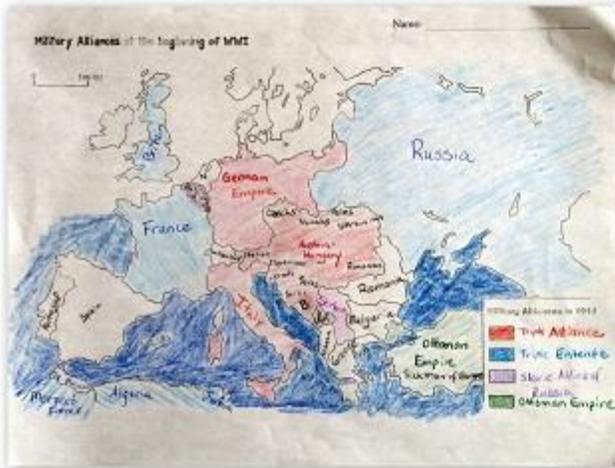
- Imperialism**: A central page with a world map showing colonial territories and a definition: 'The period from 1750 to 1900 was a new phase of European colonial conquest. They established new spheres of influence or the threat of using it to impose their political, economic, or cultural will on another country or region.'
- The British Empire and Imperialism**: A page with a world map and text discussing the British Empire's expansion, mentioning Queen Victoria and the Suez Canal.
- The British Empire in India**: A page with a map of India and text about British rule, including the 'Sepoy Mutiny' and the 'Raj'.
- Imperialism in Africa**: A page with a map of Africa and text about the 'Scramble for Africa', mentioning the Berlin Conference and the Congo Free State.
- Nationalism: Unification of Germany and Italy**: A page with a map of Europe and text about the unification of Germany and Italy, mentioning Otto von Bismarck and Giuseppe Garibaldi.
- South Africa**: A page with a map of Africa and text about the Boer War and the Union of South Africa.
- Belgium**: A page with a map of Belgium and text about the Congo Free State and the Berlin Conference.

**Answer Pages Provided!**

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From there we went on to talk about nationalism. We talked about the long-standing tensions between France and Germany (from the 30 Years War to the Napoleonic Wars, Franco-Prussian War) and the contested territory between these two countries... Alsace-Lorraine. We also spent some time talking about the unification of Germany and Italy.

We spent time talking about the different nationalities in the Austro-Hungarian empire and filled out maps (over and over) – just to make sure they kids really understood the tensions that were building (against outside control of empires such as the Ottoman Empire or the Austro-Hungarian empire).



## Nationalism in Pre-WWI Europe Map Work



Then finally, we looked at the way WWI broke out. We took quite a bit of time filling out the WWI chart (starting with Bosnia/the assassination of Archduke Ferdinand)... and then the other countries being pulled in one by one for one reason or another.

## Causes of World War I & How WWI Broke Out

**Causes of WWI**

The fall of Rome and feudalism led to competition and rivalry in Europe.

European nations tried to control the cities of their regions. They needed resources for their armies and needed to keep goods and people to deliver other parts of the world.

European nations sought alliances with other countries for protection.

European countries built more sophisticated weapons. Germany built up its navy.

**Secret Alliances**

Advantages of Forming Alliances	Disadvantages of Forming Alliances
1879: Germany formed a "new Rome" and signed a secret treaty with Austria-Hungary.	1882: The Triple Alliance was formed: Germany, Austria-Hungary and Italy made with the express purpose of opposing Italy attacking Austria-Hungary in the event of war with Russia. NOTE: In 1915 Italy joined the allies.
1894: France and Russia provide their old friends and became allies.	1904: The British Circle: Long time enemies England and France made their Alliance.
1907: The Anglo Russian Entente: England and Russia settled their differences and signed a treaty.	1907: The Triple Entente: Great Britain, France and Russia signed an open alliance in case of war. This confederacy Germany's worst fear of encirclement and a two front war.
1914: The Ottoman Empire then France joins Constantinople or the Dardanelles closer to Germany.	

**Defunctional Tensions had been building before the outbreak of WWI.**

What tensions are listed?

What is the "Crisis of the Age?"

**The Crisis of the Age—Who Did It?**

**World War I Begins**

**Secret Alliances**

Advantages of Forming Alliances

Disadvantages of Forming Alliances

1879: Germany formed a "new Rome" and signed a secret treaty with Austria-Hungary.

1882: The Triple Alliance was formed: Germany, Austria-Hungary and Italy made with the express purpose of opposing Italy attacking Austria-Hungary in the event of war with Russia. NOTE: In 1915 Italy joined the allies.

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1914: The Ottoman Empire then France joins Constantinople or the Dardanelles closer to Germany.

**Territorial Disputes**

**Balkans**

In 1878, Britain and Germany became a protectorate of Austria-Hungary, which the Balkans through agreement, were launching joint military operations against Austria-Hungary's Balkans.

Austria-Hungary annexed the region in 1908. Britain, Italy and France were not pleased because they were not consulted. The annexation crisis was one of the reasons for the tensions which led to the eruption of WWI.

During WWI, Italy's Balkan intervention was based on the promise of the end of the war, the restoration of Austro-Hungarian territories, including Macedonia and Bosnia, to Italy, to people who were assigned to ethnic violence.

**France in northern Africa**

Italy wanted control of new lands in the western part of the Austro-Hungarian empire.

**Pacific Region**

Japan wanted control of various Pacific Islands and wanted to increase their influence in China.

Russia in a step of the century war in 1904. This war was declared on Germany in 1914, the Ottoman Empire and Japan withdrew from the war at Tsingtau and attempted to make it very war across the Pacific and back to Germany.

After WWI broke out, the German withdrew their part and attempted to make it very war across the Pacific Ocean.

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**Weapons of WWI:** We spent time talking about the weapons of WWI... This was an era of

- cavalry... and airplanes
- swords... and long-range artillery
- fife and drums... and machine guns
- passenger liners... and U-boats

In this section there are note pages about the various weapons and strategies of WWI.. This section touches on topics from trench warfare, artillery fire, grenades, and poison gas to zeppelins, submarines and aircraft. There are some interactive notebook pieces provided. Students can either cut these pieces out and write on the inside

flaps or they can take notes directly on the page (without cutting the pieces out). Your student/s can do extra research, but there is information provided about the main topics in this section.

**Schlieffen Plan**  
 German plan for a two-pronged invasion of France and Russia. The German military planned to use the Schlieffen Plan to quickly overrun France from the north. The plan was to attack the French coast and then move westward to Paris.

**Weapons of WWI**  
 In previous wars, gas and weapons were used, but in WWI, more lethal weapons were used. Poisonous gas, machine guns, flamethrowers, tanks, submarines, and airplanes changed the nature of war.

**Trench Warfare**  
 In WWI, both sides dug deep trenches to protect themselves from the enemy's small arms fire and artillery. It is estimated that there were about 113 miles of trenches dug during WWI.

**Artillery**  
 On the Western Front, the primary battle tactic was to shell and blast the enemy's positions. Artillery was used to destroy the enemy's trenches and to create a barrier of fire. Artillery was also used to bombard the enemy's lines and to destroy the enemy's communication lines.

**Weapons and Fighting in WWI**

**Trench Warfare**

**Poisonous Gas**  
 Chemical weapons were first used extensively in World War I. Chemical weapons included mustard gas, gas, chlorine, and mustard gas.

**Weapons used by the Infantry**  
 Most soldiers carried loads of one sort or another. The heaviest was the infantryman's primary rifle, which was a bolt-action rifle. The heaviest rifle was the Mauser Model 98.

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**Battles of WWI:** The loss of life was staggering. At the opening of the war, on August 22, 2014 **27,000** French soldiers were killed in just one day of fighting near the Belgian and French borders in what has become known as the Battle of the Frontiers. In our unit, we did not go into detail about military strategy and the military battles of WWI. We touched on just six battles in this unit:

- **Battle of Tannenberg** - one of the first major battles of *World War I*. It was fought between Russia and Germany and ended in a German victory over the Russians.
- **First Battle of the Marne** -- This was the first major WWI battle on the Western Front. British and French troops were able to hold off the Germans just long enough. The Germans were forced to retreat.
- **Gallipoli Campaign** - The Allies hoped to capture the Turkish city of Constantinople. They first had to control the Dardanelles, the strait between the Sea of Marmara and the Aegean Sea. Allied naval attacks failed. The Allies then began a land campaign. Allied forces landed at various locations along the *Gallipoli* peninsula. The Allies were unable to make much progress away from the beaches. Eventually, they withdrew.
- **Battle of Ypres** 1915 was the Second Battle of Ypres – April 22 to May 25, 1915 It was fought for control of the town of Ypres in western Belgium. It was the first time that Germany successfully used chemical weapons on a large scale on the Western Front.
- **Battle of the Somme** This was one of the largest and bloodiest battles of the First World War. It was the first great offensive of World War I for the British. Tanks were used for the first time with some success. It was fought near the Somme River in France.

- **Battle of Verdun** – This was the largest and longest battle of the First World War on the Western Front between the German and French armies - French repulsed a major German offensive - It included some of World War I's most devastating uses of artillery. - 800,000 casualties at Verdun, about 70 percent were caused by artillery.

There are some teacher's notes provided for this section as well.

## A Few Battles of WWI: Tannenburg, First Battle of the Marne, Gallipoli, Battle of Ypres, Battle of the Somme, Battle of Verdun

**WWI Battles**



Battle of Tannenburg



First Battle of the Marne



Battle of Gallipoli

**WWI Battles**



Battle of Ypres 1915



Battle of the Somme



Battle of Verdun

**Battles of WWI Interactive Notebook Activity**





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**Notes about a few of the Battles of WWI**

In August of 1914, shortly after the outbreak of World War I, the German army invaded Belgium and moved towards Paris. The British Expeditionary Force (BEF) and French army met them at the First Battle of the Marne. The German plan was to quickly capture Paris and force France into a peace treaty. The BEF and French army stopped the German advance at the First Battle of the Marne. This battle was a tactical draw, but it prevented the German army from capturing Paris. The German army was forced to retreat to the Scheldt River. This battle was a turning point in the war. It showed that the German army was not invincible. It also showed that the British and French armies were capable of standing up to the German army in a conventional battle. The German army was forced to retreat to the Scheldt River. This battle was a tactical draw, but it prevented the German army from capturing Paris. The German army was forced to retreat to the Scheldt River. This battle was a tactical draw, but it prevented the German army from capturing Paris.

**Russian Revolution:** WWI caused an incredible loss of life and led to political instability in Russia. We talked about the **Russian Revolution** and the **Treaty of Brest-Litovsk** which took Russia out of the war.

## Russian Revolution: Notebook Pages, Worksheets

**Russian Revolution**

The Russian Revolution was the most violent and radical revolution since the French Revolution of 1789. In March 1917, the Provisional Government was overthrown, and the Bolsheviks took power. In October 1917, the Bolsheviks overthrew the Provisional Government and established the Soviet Union.

**Causes:**

- The Russian Empire was a vast, multi-ethnic empire.
- The Russian economy was in a state of collapse.
- The Russian military was in a state of collapse.
- The Russian population was suffering from poverty and hunger.

**Key Figures:**

- Vladimir Lenin: Leader of the Bolsheviks.
- Leonid Brezhnev: Soviet Premier.
- Joseph Stalin: Soviet Premier.

**Timeline:**

- 1917: February Revolution (overthrow of the Tsar).
- 1917: October Revolution (Bolshevik takeover).
- 1918: Treaty of Brest-Litovsk (Russia exits WWI).
- 1919-1921: Russian Civil War.
- 1922: Formation of the Soviet Union.

**1917-1918 Russian Revolution; WWI Interactive Notebook Pieces**



**Key Figures:**

- Vladimir Lenin
- Leonid Brezhnev
- Joseph Stalin

**Timeline:**

- 1917: February Revolution
- 1917: October Revolution
- 1918: Treaty of Brest-Litovsk
- 1919-1921: Russian Civil War
- 1922: Formation of the Soviet Union

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