

Heroes Bunting



Activity Objective

Welcome to Heroes Bunting, an interactive lesson which supports art and design, reading, writing, history, and mathematics. You can use your bunting to decorate the classroom perhaps during the cake sale activities. But it's also an excellent way to celebrate Armed Forces week which takes place in the last Saturday of June every year, or when you are covering topics such as the military and WW1 and WW2.

Bunting dates back centuries, but first rose to prominence in the United Kingdom onboard Royal Navy boats. The flags were used to communicate messages between vessels. The most famous message apparently delivered was by Admiral Nelson on HMS Victory at the battle of Trafalgar and read "England expects that every man will do his duty."

These days bunting is one of the most popular decorations in the country and is particularly fashion-able during celebrations. Our Heroes bunting, which you can encourage the children to customise, has been designed to represent each of the British Armed Forces who all have their own unique purpose, goals and objectives and importantly for this lesson, their own colours, which are:

Navy Blue =
Royal Navy

Red =
British Army

Light Blue =
Royal
Air Force

Lesson Structure

Research & Discussion

Before you begin making the bunting it's important to establish a conversation with the children about our Armed Forces. Our supplementary reference document will make it easy for you to help develop a strategy on how to commence a discussion on how our Armed Forces support our country and the important job they do in keeping us safe. We'd suggest asking the children to do their own research then asking them to take part in group discussion.

Did you know?

The Royal Navy is always represented first, as we can trace its origins to the early 16th century. The oldest of the UK's armed services, it is known as the Senior Service.

The British Army comes next and traces its heritage back to Oliver Cromwell's raising of the 'New Model Army' in the 17th century.

The Royal Air Force is the newest of our Armed Forces. Formed towards the end of the First World War on 1 April 1918, it is the oldest independent air force in the world. The RAF will celebrate its 100th anniversary in 2018, making it an extra special year.

Sample Question ideas for pupils

- How many Armed Forces does the British military have?
- Can you name each of the Armed Forces?
- Who is the Commander-in-Chief of the British Armed Forces?
- Can you match colours to each of the Armed Forces?
- How many active personnel are serving in each of the Armed Forces?
- What careers are available with the Armed Forces?
- Where are our Armed Forces currently deployed?
- What attracts people to join our Armed Forces?

Designing Your Bunting

Making bunting is not only a fun task but it can also help children's motor skills encouraging dexterity and involves cutting, drawing, sticking and design.

Pupils can customise their bunting. Here's some ideas to help them decide what they'd like to draw or write on the paper:

Help for Heroes Recovery Programme

Aiding recovery is an essential service and on our designated pages you can research the different activities that are used to help people in their recovery and then draw that activity.

Support for Heroes

Children can write inspirational words that relate to heroes on their bunting – or write a message for our wounded, injured and sick Servicemen and women – and send it to us, so we can display their work at our Recovery Centres.

British Armed Forces

Ask the children to conduct research in to your chosen topic. Then ask them to draw something that relates to your topic in the bunting design. It could be military jobs, badges and insignia, food, the flags of the counties we currently have troops in, physical activities that are used for training, the different vehicles they use, uniform, etc.

WW1 or WW2 topics

Making the Bunting (Mathematics)

- Identify which part of the school or classroom you've decided to decorate with the bunting.
- Ask the children to measure the space in order that it can be correctly calculated.
- Based on the measurements, work out how many sheets of the bunting they need.
- How far will the bunting reach when it's all put together and hung up?
- Will it be long enough for the space, too short or too long?
- If you laid it out in the playground, how far would it reach?

Teaching Resources

The Help for Heroes website is a magnificent source of research material and can be used in conjunction with this lesson. We'd also suggest the official British Armed Forces and Ministry of Defence websites for further reading.

Help for Heroes Recovery Programme: www.helpforheroes.org.uk/get-support/recovery-programme/

The Ministry of Defence www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ministry-of-defence/about

The Royal Navy www.royalnavy.mod.uk

The British Army army.mod.uk

The Royal Air Force www.raf.mod.uk/history

Make your own bunting

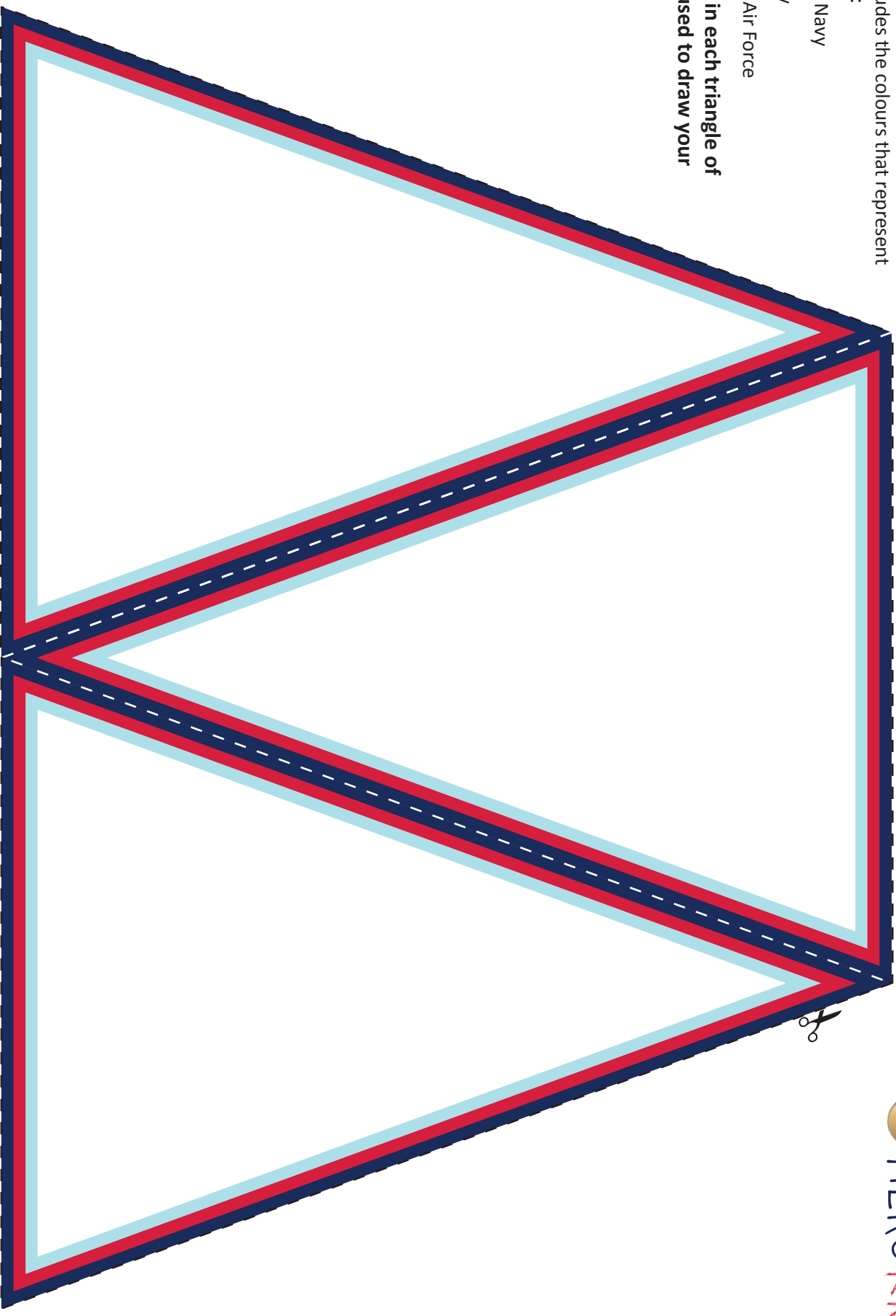
Our template includes the colours that represent our Armed Forces:

Navy Blue = Royal Navy

Red = British Army

Light Blue = Royal Air Force

The blank space in each triangle of bunting can be used to draw your own picture.



HELP for
HEROES
HEROkids