

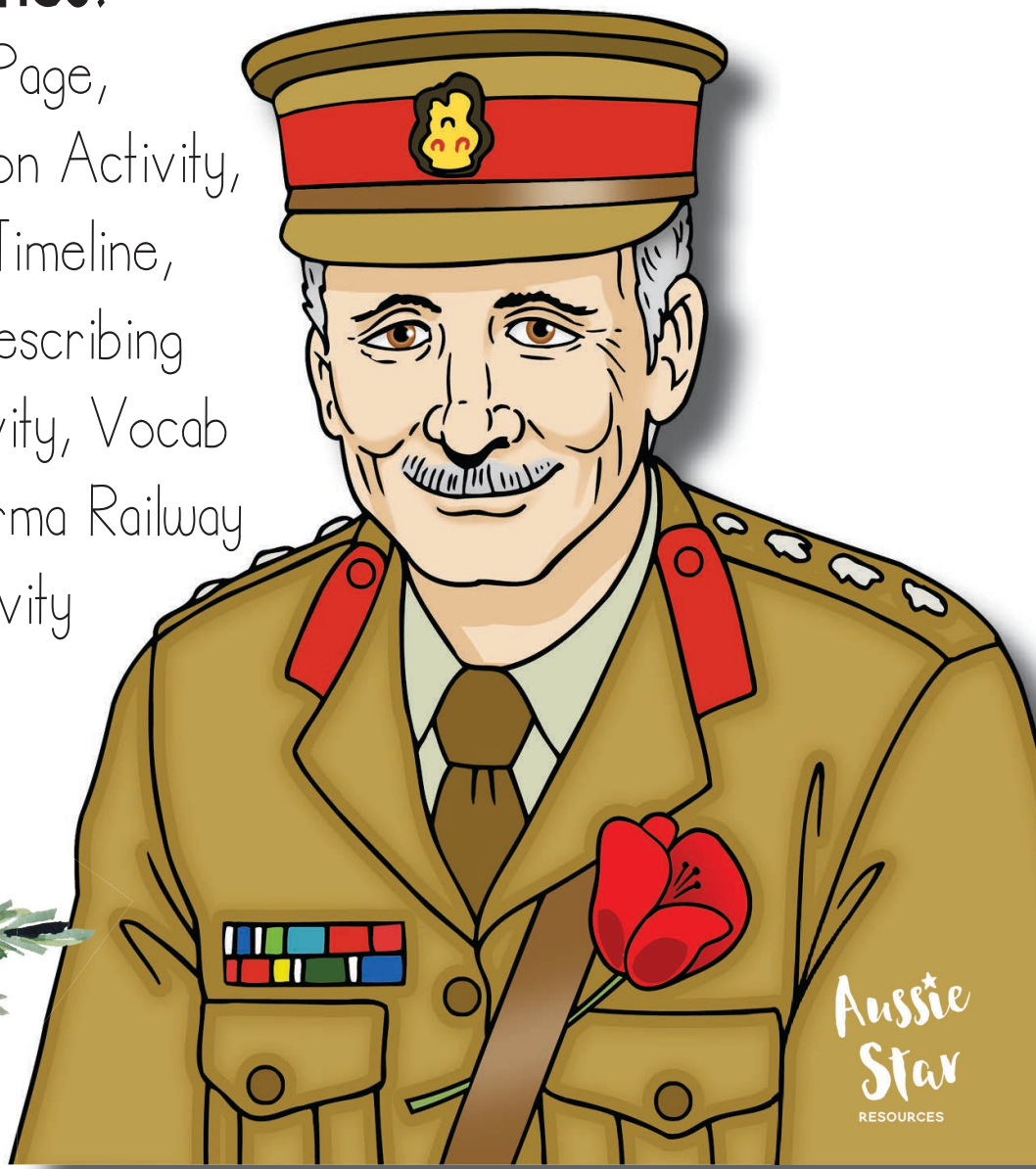
Grade 5 HASS
Australian History

War Heroes

Weary Dunlop

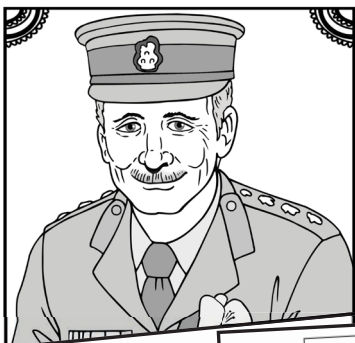
7 fun activities!

Mini-Unit Title Page,
Poetry Comprehension Activity,
Movie Film Strip Timeline,
Poetry Review, Describing
Weary Dunlop Activity, Vocab
Activity and Thai -Burma Railway
Mapping Activity



*Aussie
Star*
RESOURCES

Australia's Anzac Heroes



Weary Dunlop

By Jessica Bakkers

On a rambling farm called Sheepwash Creek,
a man was born to do great deeds.
He was born Edward Ernest and worked a wheat crop,
a humble beginning for Weary Dunlop.
In the early days of Australia's birth,
a farmer's life was not his worth.
Still a youth, although strong and smart,
Weary enlisted at the request of his heart.
He wanted to do good, to defend his nation,
and school and the army took him from the sheep station.
Weary learned medicine and was top of his class,
he played rugby and boxed, a gentleman of class.
He courted and wooed a well-to-do lady,
though their marriage and happiness would be long kept waiting.
For it was in 1931 that the world was shook awake,
as the red sun rose on war's outbreak.
As a Captain he served the Australian Imperial Force,
until promoted to Lieutenant Colonel where things became worse.
While commanding a hospital in Bandung, Java,
the enemy swarmed in a bloodthirsty drama.
Weary was captured and

exposed to the elements and suffered in pain.
They were starved and beaten, they ratched and they bled;
they stopped when they dropped to the ground, dead.
As a Doctor, a pharmacist, a healer and friend,
Weary worked tirelessly until the very end.
He treated the wounded and comforted the dying,
he would retire to his cot by moonlight, crying.
He remembered the names of the first few who fell,
Jack and William, and Jonathan as well,
And when the names faded Weary took to count,
and as the numbers hit the hundreds his grief began to mount.
Driven by sadness, and dogged with determination,
Weary applied his medicine with compassionate imagination.
He used what he could to protect and to heal,
if it meant endangering himself or giving away a meal.
Weary would rise and stand up for his men,
and be punished and beaten for his mild concern.
And in 1943 when the tracks faced an impasse,
the men were set to work on Hellfire Pass.
So named for its impact upon the allied forces,
the Pass claimed thousands and left behind corpses.
Life was indeed Weary for Dunlop's Force of men,
hope was lost and life became uncertain.
Then a miracle occurred in mid-August forty-five,
the Japanese surrendered, the allies had survived!
Weary was liberated, and freedom was near,
his story was told, and his name was dear.

Poetry Review

Three facts I've learned about Weary Dunlop.

Three opinions I have about Weary Dunlop.

Write a short letter to the Governor General explaining why you think John Simpson-Kirkpatrick should be awarded a medal recognising his bravery.

Describing Weary

Weary Dunlop is one of Australia's greatest. Now that you have read the poem and know him a little better, write eight words that you can think of to describe him in each of the circles below.



Find the definitions for these words from the Weary Dunlop poem. Fold along the dotted line and then cut carefully between each word up to the dotted line to create flags. Under each flag write the definition for each word.

Expand your vocabulary

enlisted

province

respite

dreary

liberate

The Thai Burma Railway



The Thai Burma Railway

Glue Here



Glue Here

Mapping the Thai-Burma Railway

Use the internet to research the Thai-Burma Railway and answer the questions provided.

1. Name the two rivers that border the Thai-Burma Railway.
2. Name the sea that borders Myanmar.
3. Trace the Thai-Burma Railway with a green pencil.
4. Trace the Myanmar-Thailand border with an orange pencil.
5. Insert the name of the city in Myanmar where the railway line starts indicated by a red dot.
6. Insert the name of the city in Thailand where the railway line ends indicated by a red dot.

