

# Canadian Peacekeepers

**Grades 5-8**

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**Illustrated by S&S Learning Materials**

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**ISBN 978-1-55495-039-3**  
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Published in Canada by:  
S&S Learning Materials  
15 Dairy Avenue  
Napane, Ontario  
K7R 1M4  
[www.sslearning.com](http://www.sslearning.com)

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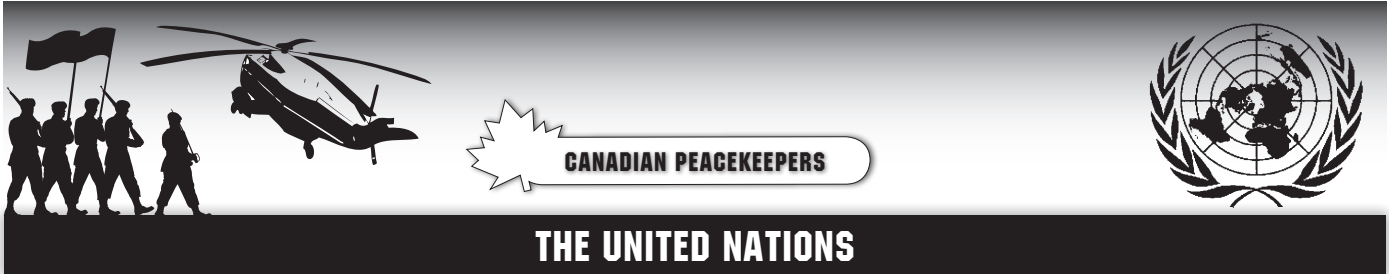
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# At Glance

Learning Expectations	United Nations	Suez Canal I	Suez Canal II	Peacekeeper	Cyprus	Heroes / Cyprus	Congo	General Dallaire	The DART	Afghanistan	Highway / Heroes
<b>Understanding concepts</b>											
Identify and describe story elements	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Summarize event/details	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Use context clues	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
<b>Literacy and Communication Skills</b>											
Making comparisons			•							•	
Make inferences (i.e., why events occurred, characters' thoughts and feelings, etc.)	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Understand abstract concepts - conscience, fear, perseverance, self-respect, conflict, etc.		•		•		•	•	•		•	•
Develop opinions and personal interpretations	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Write a letter/newspaper editorial								•			
Conduct an interview		•	•								
Complete a KWL Chart					•						
Complete a 5W Chart						•					
Create a synopsis			•			•	•				•
Making predictions				•							
Complete a Sequence Chart						•					
Create a travel brochure							•				
Create a poster/comic strip/picture		•							•		
Practise research skills	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Practise map skills	•	•			•						•
<b>Developing Vocabulary Skills</b>											
Working with poetry		•									•
Complete a Cluster/Word Web									•		
Working with parts of speech							•				
Identify synonyms, antonyms, and homonyms					•			•			
Dictionary and thesaurus skills	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•

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1. Complete each sentence with a word from the list. Use a dictionary to help you.

principal	visible		civilian	devastating
cease	dialogue		pursue	perish

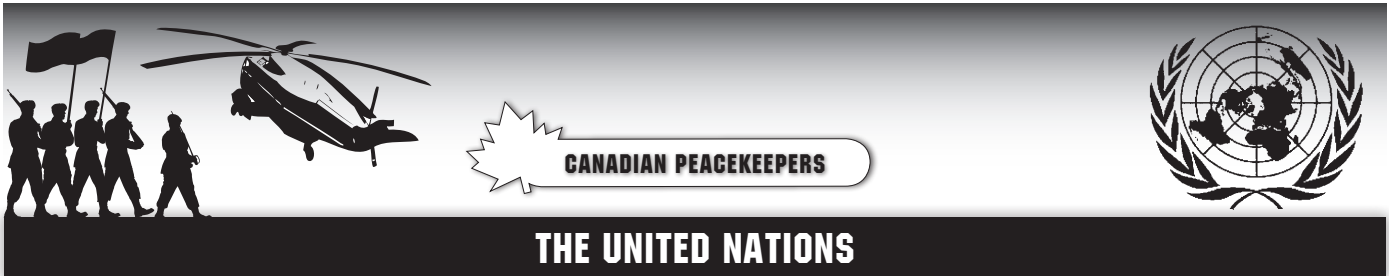
- a) The loss of their house in the flood proved \_\_\_\_\_ to the family.
- b) I thought I would \_\_\_\_\_ in the blizzard.
- c) It's not likely that a wolverine will \_\_\_\_\_ you if you happen upon it in the forest.
- d) The oasis was barely \_\_\_\_\_ on the horizon.
- e) My \_\_\_\_\_ reason for telling you this is so you might not repeat the same mistake.
- f) "I wish she would just \_\_\_\_\_ her piano lessons right away," her mother said.
- g) It was difficult getting used to being a \_\_\_\_\_ once again after being in the army for so long.
- h) He is so shy, it is hard to get a \_\_\_\_\_ going with him.

2. Briefly state one fact you know about the United Nations.

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## THE UNITED NATIONS

*I have seen war. I have seen war on land and sea. I have seen blood running from the wounded. I have seen the dead in the mud. I have seen cities destroyed. I have seen children starving. I have seen the agony of mothers and wives. I hate war.*

(Franklin Delano Roosevelt)

*When will our consciences grow so tender that we will act to prevent human misery rather than avenge it?*

(Eleanor Roosevelt)



World War Two (1939-1945) was the most devastating war ever fought. Approximately 72 million people were killed including 47 million civilians. Over one million Canadians served in our nation's Armed Forces during this terrible war, and of this number 45,300 perished. You can imagine the shock and pain that so many were feeling by the war's end. Countless people had been killed; millions of homes had been destroyed; and lives everywhere lay in ruins.

Following the devastation of this horrific conflict, the nations of the world got together to see if any steps could be taken to help prevent such a global war from ever happening again. To this end, an organization called The United Nations was formed. Originally, it involved the representatives of fifty nations who met together in San Francisco in 1945. These members drew up a United Nations Charter spelling out the role they wished this new association to pursue. The principal purposes for the organization were to stop wars and to provide a means for dialogue between countries on the brink of war. The first members, though, were well aware of the difficulty of their task, for after the First World War (1914-1918), a similar organization called The League of Nations had been formed. The League of Nations ceased to exist after it failed to prevent the Second World War from happening.

Why do you think it was important for the United Nations to be formed?

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**CANADIAN PEACEKEEPERS**



# THE UNITED NATIONS

The United Nations came into existence on October 24, 1945 and it was at the first meetings that the Charter of the United Nations was drafted. The headquarters of the United Nations was established in New York City on international territory. The organization presently has about 200 members. Its most visible public figure is the Secretary-General.



Why do you think New York City was chosen as the headquarters for the United Nations?

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As of the end of the year 2008, the United Nations has been involved in 63 peacekeeping operations in its first 43 years of existence. Sixteen of these operations were ongoing as of the beginning of 2009. At the outset, peacekeeping was mainly “standing in the middle” of warring factions, but today the role and responsibilities have widened. As UN peacekeepers maintain peace on the ground, others from the organization meet with the leaders of the disputing parties to try to reach a peaceful solution to their problems. In addition to military operations, the UN peacekeepers are also involved in other activities. These include supervising elections, disarming opposing factions, ensuring human rights are not violated, and providing humanitarian assistance. This includes providing food for the needy, building schools and providing medical help.

## The Security Council

An important part of the United Nations is the Security Council. This council is composed of fifteen members, five of which are permanent: The United States, Russia, China, France and The United Kingdom. The Security Council takes a leadership role in ensuring world peace, and permanent members can veto the decisions made by the general membership. This body will often make recommendations to the general membership as regards to actions in the event of a world crisis.