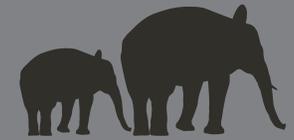


Hearts of Newfoundland

ELEPHANT TURF Citizenship



The Adventure:

On July 1, 1916, the 1st Newfoundland Regiment took part in the “Big Push” across No Man’s Land at the Battle of the Somme in World War I. Of 801 Newfoundlanders who went into battle at Beaumont-Hamel, only 68 answered roll call the next day.

While the rest of Canada celebrates Canada Day on July 1 every year, Newfoundland also marks the date as Memorial Day in honour of the soldiers who fought and died.

To understand the bravery of the Newfoundlanders, recreate the scramble at Beaumont-Hamel. First, take a deck of cards and remove the jokers and all of the Hearts—except for the 10, Jack, Queen, King and Ace. Put the remaining cards (all of the Diamonds, Spades, Clubs and the high Hearts) in brightly coloured envelopes. Scatter the envelopes in a playing field. Line up at one end

of the field, and then race to collect the envelopes with the cards hidden inside. The object is to find one of the Hearts.

When the envelopes are all collected, gather as a Pack and catch your breath. Take turns opening your envelopes in front of one another.

The more cards you collect, the more likely it is to find a Heart. Those who find a Heart beat the odds, just like the soldiers who made roll call on July 2, 1916.



Newfoundland soldiers waiting in St. John’s Road support trench

Online Resources:

- The Newfoundland Regiment at Beaumont-Hamel
- Beaumont-Hamel Newfoundland Memorial
- Beaumont-Hamel

Plan:

- Who will lead this adventure?
- When and where will you share this adventure?
- What tasks need to be done?
- What materials do you need? Where will you get them?

Do:

- Play “Hearts of Newfoundland”.

Review:

- What do you know now that you did not know before?
- Who collected the most envelopes? Did he or she find a Heart?
- What do you feel for those who did not find a Heart?
- How do you think the young men felt before going into battle?
- Why do you think these soldiers volunteered to go to war?

Safety note:

How can you prevent running into one another while racing to collect envelopes?