

# Canadian Comprehension

**Grades 5-6**

**Written by Michael Blackburn  
Illustrated by S&S Learning Materials**

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## Table of Contents

<b>At A Glance</b> <sup>TM</sup> .....	2
<b>Assessment Rubrics</b>	
Reading .....	4
Social Studies .....	4
<b>Read Aloud Observation Form</b> .....	5
<b>Introduction</b> .....	6
<b>Information Sheets &amp; Activities</b>	
Section 1 (Focus: Symbols of Canada) .....	7
Section 2 (Focus: Inventors & Inventions) .....	15
Section 3 (Focus: Canadian Governments; Early Explorers of Canada) .....	23
Section 4 (Focus: Prime Ministers; Aboriginal Peoples) .....	32
Section 5 (Focus: Canadian Landmarks) .....	41
Section 6 (Focus: Canadian Sports) .....	49
Section 7 (Focus: Famous Canadians) .....	58
<b>Assessments</b>	
Reading Assessments .....	67
Writing Assessment .....	75
Social Studies Assessments .....	76
<b>Answer Key</b> .....	78

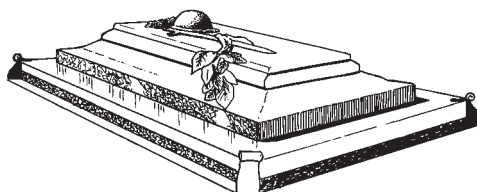
# The Peace Tower

Canada has many symbols including the maple leaf, beaver and the Bluenose ship. One of the most interesting symbols is actually a part of a building – the Peace Tower.



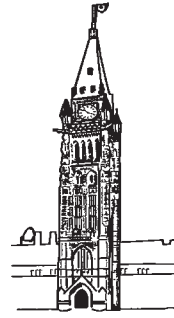
## Facts about the Peace Tower:

<p>1. The Peace Tower is located at the front of the parliament buildings – home to Canada’s federal government – in Ottawa, Ontario.</p>	<p>7. The Peace Tower is made from sandstone and concrete. The roof is covered with copper, which has turned green.</p>
<p>2. The parliament buildings are divided into three areas or blocks: East, West and Centre. The Peace Tower is at the front of the Centre Block.</p>	<p>8. There are staircases that lead to the top of the Peace Tower where the observation deck and clock are. The clock is on all sides of the tower and has four separate faces.</p>
<p>3. The Peace Tower was built between 1919 and 1927.</p>	<p>9. Located inside the Peace Tower is a carillon, which is like a large piano with bells attached. A musician plays the carillon with fists and feet!</p>
<p>4. The Peace Tower replaced the Victoria Tower, which was destroyed by a fire in 1916.</p>	<p>10. The carillon has 53 bells in total with the largest one weighing over 10 000 kilograms. The bells ring once an hour, every day.</p>
<p>5. The Peace Tower was given its name as a tribute to the Canadians who died in World War I.</p>	<p>11. On the second floor of the Peace Tower is the Memorial Chamber built to honour fallen soldiers. It looks like a small church.</p>
<p>6. The Peace Tower stands a total height of 92 metres and has an observation deck one can look out from.</p>	<p>12. The Memorial Chamber is filled with stained glass windows and stone from France and Belgium where many Canadians lost their lives.</p>



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# The Peace Tower



1. Where is the Peace Tower located? Give three details.

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2. How did the Peace Tower get its name?

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3. List five interesting facts about the appearance and design of the Peace Tower.

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4. Why is the Memorial Chamber an important part of the Peace Tower?

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5. How does a carillon work?

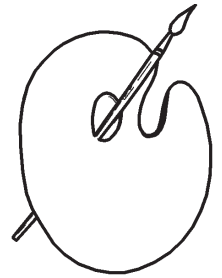
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## Creative Canada

Mr. Pillon's class had just finished a unit on symbols of Canada. They had studied many buildings and natural wonders that can be found in Canada. They had talked about Niagara Falls, the CN Tower, Canadian coins, the Peace Tower and other symbols uniquely Canadian. At the end of each unit of study, Mr. Pillon would test the students on their knowledge in the area they had just examined. To their surprise, Mr. Pillon informed them that this time he would give them an assignment instead. He asked that each student create a model of one of the symbols they had studied, displaying all of the information they had learned in a creative way. The students were excited to be doing something different for a change. Mr. Pillon gave them until the next class to decide which symbol they would re-create.



Shannon, one of Mr. Pillon's students, knew that this was her chance to bring up her mark in social studies. She had never been very good at taking tests, but she had a very creative side to her and she knew exactly what she wanted to do.

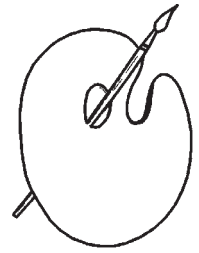
That weekend, Shannon went out to purchase some items for her project. She had been able to find most of the materials at home, but she needed a few more things to get the job done right. Shannon threw herself into her project and worked almost daily on it until the day came to present it to her class. Shannon carefully loaded it into her mother's car and they headed off to school.

When Shannon arrived at school, everyone was carrying their projects in garbage bags or in shoe boxes to protect them, just like Shannon. Everyone seemed genuinely proud of their efforts and couldn't wait to show them to the class.

When the time came for Shannon to present, she carried her project to the front of the room and unveiled her creation. She heard many people, including Mr. Pillon, gasp. Shannon had built a model of the Peace Tower in Ottawa. But it wasn't just any model. Shannon had taken time and painted each and every piece separately before assembling them. The roof of her model was green. Shannon explained that the roof of the real Peace Tower was copper but that copper tarnishes over time and turns green. She had made much of the model from toothpicks and popsicle sticks and had even included four working clocks in the top of her tower, just as the real Peace Tower had. Shannon talked about how the Peace Tower was built and named for the Canadians who had died in World War I. She had carefully included every detail that they had learned about the Peace Tower. Shannon was very proud of herself and to end her presentation, she rang the tiny bell that was similar to the bells that could be heard from the real Peace Tower.

Later that week, Mr. Pillon gave back their marked assignments. Shannon was thrilled to see an A+ on her Peace Tower; her hard work had paid off, and her social studies grade would be better on her next report card.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_



# Creative Canada

1. Why were the students surprised about the assignment?

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2. How did Shannon feel about the assignment?

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3. List the similarities and differences between Shannon's Peace Tower and the real Peace Tower.

Similarities	Differences

4. Why was Shannon happy at the end of the story?

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Section 1 - Symbols of Canada: Gr. 5 Fiction  
Literacy Skills: Reading for Detail, Compare & Contrast