

TEEN LIFE IN 1914



From the movie
WAR HORSE, in theaters
December 25, 2011

Life for a teenager during World War I was often stressful. Families were faced with the possibility of fighting for their countries, and boys in their teens often joined the army to fight. Some even lied about their age so they could become soldiers. Even for those who didn't fight, the world was changed greatly by the Great War.

Look at the chart below to compare what it was like in the United States during the war and today.

Look Deeper

It was tough to be a teen in 1914, but that doesn't mean that they didn't find ways to have fun! Research different ways that young people relaxed in the early 1900s, then compare that to what you and your friends do today.

Create a chart like the one below to compare and contrast books, music, movies, and other teen entertainment.

About *War Horse*

War Horse by Michael Morpurgo is the story of a horse named Joey and a teenager named Albert. Described as "a powerful story of the truest of friendships in the worst of wars," *War Horse* was the runner-up for the Whitbread Award and will be released as a feature film on December 25, 2011.

	World War I	Today
President	Woodrow Wilson	Barack Obama
Education	In 1918, every state in the country required students to finish elementary school.	Some states require students to attend school until they turn 18, others range from 14 to 17.
Social Changes	Women in the United States were not allowed to vote.	All citizens 18 and older can vote.
Price of Milk	\$0.36 per gallon	\$3.30 to \$3.70 per gallon
Transportation	In 1918, 1 out of 13 families owned a car or a truck.	The average family now owns 2.28 vehicles.
Communication	In 1919, it took a letter 3 days to travel by air and train from Paris to Casablanca.	Emails, texts, and tweets travel around the world instantly.