Memorial Day is a federal holiday in the United States for remembering the people who died while serving in the country’s armed forces. It was originally called Decoration Day. It started 3 years after the end of the Civil War in 1868 when Union soldiers began decorating the graves of those that had died. Memorial Day became a national holiday in 1971.

Memorial Day is an opportunity to teach our children that this day is more than a three day weekend, barbecues, blockbusters and the beach; it’s a time to honor those who have served our country. They will learn what it means to sacrifice and put God and others first, and to love their neighbor. Last, but not least, we can also remember how Jesus died for us in the war of Heaven and earth battling for our hearts and lives.

**Mini-wreaths Activity for Memorial Day**

**What You Need:**
- Paper plates for the back
- Card stock stars
- Cross
- Label with message

**A Patriotic Parfait**

**What You Need:**
- Yogurt (may use non-dairy yogurt)
- Blue berries
- Strawberries
- Crushed graham crackers (or granola)