



THE GREAT WAR

Remembered

LIVING ARCHIVE MILTON KEYNES



Medium term plan: KS2 Local study unit, family life in WW1 (Y5/6, 3 weeks)

A depth study of an aspect of history from the period beyond 1066 that is of local significance

Unit learning objectives:

Cross-curricular including History, English, ICT, PSHE

History:

- Hist: Understand how knowledge of the past is constructed from a range of sources
- Hist: Sometimes devise historically valid questions
- Hist: Understand connections between local, national and international events in history

English:

- Eng: Identify and summarise the key points from a verbal account
- Eng: Distinguish between fact and opinion
- Eng: Note and develop initial ideas, draw on reading
- Eng speaking: Consider and evaluate different viewpoints
- Eng: Discuss and evaluate how authors use language, including figurative language, considering the impact on the reader

Learning outcomes. By the end of the unit, students:

- Must have had experience of using primary sources to answer relevant historical questions
- Should understand how a local family's experience of WW1 fits into the national and international historical context
- Could make further progress and work independently on a line of historical enquiry, comparing and contrasting a variety of primary sources

Possible written and spoken outcomes:

- Audio interviews with and by children: perceptions of WWI, before and after project (KWL assessment)
- Storyboard-style summary of events and situations based on sources
- Role play "freeze-frames" to show facts, opinions and feelings (filmed)
- Research quiz questions
- Multimedia story-telling presentations of research, could go on VLE

Key vocabulary:

First World War, The Great War, military service, join up, trench, rifleman, archive, artefact, primary source, fact, opinion, viewpoint, interview, research, storyboard, freeze-frame

Differentiation:

SEN: adult support, writing frames, listening tasks and by selection of VAK sources
EAL: visual instructions, use of photos, display unfamiliar keywords
Able, gifted and talented: sustain a viewpoint or role, lead a group, compare sources, follow an independent research task using online or printed resources.



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Phase 1: Establish the historical context of study (4 lessons)

- Introduce topic using engaging audio, video clips letters and diary extracts from websites: children discuss their ideas about what unit may be about
- Locate the First World War period on a historical timeline (washing-line), using familiar dates and naming historical periods
- Use keywords in a card-sort activity, sorting into WW1 words and general history terms, display on wall
- Children interview each other on existing knowledge and opinions about the WW1 and how they think the local area around school has changed since then
- Visit local war memorial (or photos) with Royal British Legion representative or local historian to explain the meaning and relevance of monument, significance of Remembrance Day and the centenary commemoration events in 2014 worldwide

Phase 2: Understand and use primary historical sources (5 lessons)

- Listen to, read and summarise key points in a range of primary sources eg. letters, diaries, audio interviews, photos (eg. Read aloud letter 15 as a class and model the task. Working in ability groups, use letters or excerpts allocated by reading ability). Present scenes in a storyboard- style summary.
- Identify common features and themes found in the sources, eg. lack of suitable food, communication difficulties, informal affectionate style
- Compare use of informal and formal letter layout and use of language eg. compare Albert French letters 15/18 (May) with 16/17(Dad) and 20 (Captain Pennell).
- Design and answer quiz questions on historical facts eg. compare situation of the soldier with the family at home eg. entertainment, shops, work, money
- Discuss the soldier's dilemma: to describe the conditions in the trenches and his emotions factually, against the need to put on a brave face
- Prepare, act and film role-play "freeze-frames" in small groups with a narrator reading letter or other source text, to show the family's opinions and feelings at key moments eg. Dad's reaction on hearing Albert's impatience (letter 16), May reading about the noise of the bullets (18)



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Phase 3: Independent research and multimedia presentation (6 lessons and event)

- Discuss how as historians we can ask relevant and useful questions to clarify understanding or to find out more about topic of research
- Write notes for quiz-style questions about local area in MK, its people and their experiences during WW1 (soldiers, women, work, families)
- Carry out internet and text-based research to answer valid historical questions, using the sources provided and on the LA Great War website, Other Sources list (LAMK website), Joining up section on *Days of Pride* website, *War Horse* by Michael Morpurgo extracts, local maps and archive on womens' work and the War effort
- Plan, evaluate and improve work as multimedia story-telling or Moviemaker films, using children's audio voices performing authentic words from primary sources
- Present work to an audience of local families, including some older residents whose parents and families were affected by WW1
- Evaluate learning and repeat audio interviews with children about their perceptions and learning about WW1
- Select work to include on school VLE or website, adding extracts from children's interviews about their learning from the project.

Resources:

- Printable images, diary extracts, letters, news articles etc from Learning pages of Living Archive MK, First World War Remembered website: www.greatwarmemoriesmk.co.uk Best to use for this unit are: KS2 Topic 1 Children's Lives, resources CHN1-8 and audio also KS2 Topic 2 Local study, Home Front HF1 - HF13.2 and Audio clips at bottom of learning resources page.
- Website Rifleman Albert French, transcribed letters no. 15-18, 20 <http://www.mkheritage.co.uk/la/>
- Christmas letter and portrait on Living Archive website <http://www.livingarchive.org.uk/content/local-history/areas/wolverton/a-christmas-letter>
- CD Rom *Your loving brother* with audio and text extracts of letters, available from Living Archive MK.
- Maps of Wolverton in early 1900s, 1914-18 and modern times (from local archives and Google Earth)
- Digital archive sources about war work and women's work at Wolverton works and printing company
- Local historian or Royal British Legion rep and visit to war memorial