



AMY'S WAR!

South Shields at War

The Teaching Programme

Story focus

The teaching programme is focused through a fictional story set over three generations. Beginning just after the war in 1950, nine year old Amy discovers objects from World War II in her Dad's allotment shed. Two generations later, her granddaughter asks Nana Amy for help with her school project. Linking these generations together are a number of artefacts and the partly destroyed diary of Miss Amelia Flagg.

Document Focus

The documents highlight the biggest and most devastating raid that took place on South Shields on 2 October 1941. From this dramatic event teachers can pan out into various aspects of life on the home front and use this information to explain how that terrible night came to pass. The topics focus on local evidence and can be done in any order, or some omitted, if the teacher chooses.

Support Materials

Accompanying this website is a 30 minute DVD, The Night they bombed the Market Place. This features the vivid wartime memories of Joan Snailham and Lilly Freeman. Both ladies witnessed the devastating air raid 2 October 1941.

South Shields Museum offers a discovery walk around the centre of Shields together with an exhibition showing the impact of the war. This emphasises the role the town had in keeping Britain supplied through her merchant marine.

The Real Amy

The story focus was inspired by the real Amy Flagg. Amy was South Shields' most famous historian. She was born in 1894 and died in 1965 aged 71. Her wide ranging research included subjects as varied as shipbuilding, glassmaking, the water supply and the growth of local communities. During World War II Amy was the official photographer for South Shields and recorded the extensive bomb damage - including a bomb that fell in the garden of her own home in Westoe. She was a familiar figure around the town, dressed in her distinctive trench coat and trilby hat. Amy donated all her work to South Shields library and you can still use it to help your history research today.

Project Outline | AMY'S WAR! South Shields at War

<p>Amy's War A local study of South Shields during World War Two</p>	<p>Expectation Most children will demonstrate factual knowledge and understanding of the impact of the Second World War on children in particular and society in general; give reasons for, and the results of, evacuation; identify different ways in which the Second World War has been represented; ask questions and answer them using a range of sources; communicate their learning, using specialist terms in ways that show understanding</p>			
Unit & Focus	Learning Objectives	Teaching Activities		Learning Outcomes
<p>Unit 1 Bombing Raid</p>	<p>Why were air raids feared?</p>	<p>Coordinates Game Deciphering government posters</p>	<p>Why were particular places bombed? What was the purpose of bombing ordinary people?</p>	<p>Understanding cause and effect</p>
<p>Unit 2a Invasion Attempts Unit 2b Air raid!</p>	<p>How Britain has been threatened by invasion attempts in the past. How did Britain try to protect its people from air raids?</p>	<p>Card sort – Invasion attempts Making an Anderson shelter Written account</p>	<p>Which countries have threatened Britain in the Past? How successful would these shelters have been? What would it have been like to spend time in one?</p>	<p>Following instructions Prioritising objects for inclusion in the shelter Empathetic reconstruction</p>
<p>Unit 3 Dig for Victory</p>	<p>Why were there shortages?</p>	<p>Poster design</p>	<p>What measures were taken to increase a good supply of healthy food?</p>	<p>Understanding cause and effect</p>
<p>Unit 4 Rationing</p>	<p>Why was rationing introduced? How did it work?</p>	<p>Game based on feeding and clothing the family</p>	<p>What sorts of things were rationed?</p>	<p>Understanding cause and effect Empathetic understanding</p>
<p>Unit 5 Prove Yourself! Identity Cards</p>	<p>Why were identity cards issued?</p>	<p>Constructing an identity card</p>	<p>Why did the government think they were necessary?</p>	<p>Evaluating evidence</p>
<p>Unit 6 What if the Germans had invaded</p>	<p>What might have happened if Germany had won the war?</p>	<p>Card Sort Discussion</p>	<p>What differences in our way of life would have probably happened if the German invasion had been successful?</p>	<p>Extrapolating information and forming hypothesis</p>
<p>Unit 7 Escaping the War – Evacuation</p>	<p>Why were children evacuated from their homes?</p>	<p>Postcards home</p>	<p>What might it have been like? Would everyone have felt the same?</p>	<p>Understanding different points of view</p>
<p>Unit 8 Escaping the war – Cinema</p>	<p>Why was cinema so important?</p>	<p>Trailer for a film</p>	<p>What types of films were shown?</p>	<p>Empathetic understanding</p>
<p>Unit 9 Blackout</p>	<p>Why was it necessary to blackout all lights?</p>	<p>Leaflet design</p>	<p>What happened as a result of blackout measures?</p>	<p>Understanding the impact blackouts had on the population</p>
<p>Unit 10 Propaganda</p>	<p>What types of propoganda were produced?</p>	<p>Story sequencing</p>	<p>What is propoganda? Are there examples today?</p>	<p>Understanding bias</p>

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Unit 11 Gas Attack?	Why did Britain fear a poisonous gas attack?	Designing and making a gas mask	Why were gas masks needed?	Making, designing and evaluating
Unit 12 The Big Raid 2 October 1941	What happened during this raid? Why did it take place?	Radio broadcast Newsreel commentary	Why was South Shields a target for bombing raids? What would people have done during the air raid?	To place information in sequence To identify key features of the attack Explaining cause and consequences
13. Memories are made of This	What can people remember?	Preparing interview questions	What do people remember? Why are there different accounts of what happened?	Understanding gaps in evidence and differing viewpoints