

History Overview

Grace Darling



Rationale: This unit of work will focus upon the way of life of a famous person who lived at a time before living memory. A study of Grace Darling offers opportunities to compare historical interpretations (i.e. different versions of the same event.) It also allows the children to enter a pre-electric, pre-motorised and pre-digital age so useful work can be undertaken on similarity and difference (RNLI today) as well as exploring motivation.

Pre-Unit task: Look at pictures of a modern day lifeboat and the coble boat Grace and her father used for their heroic rescue. Describe each. Similarities? Differences?

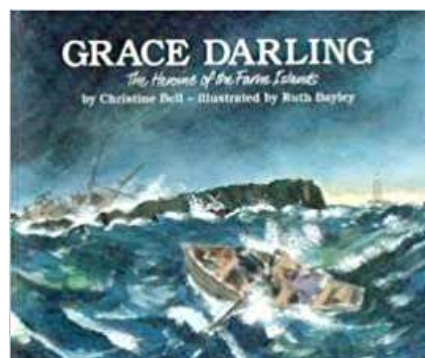
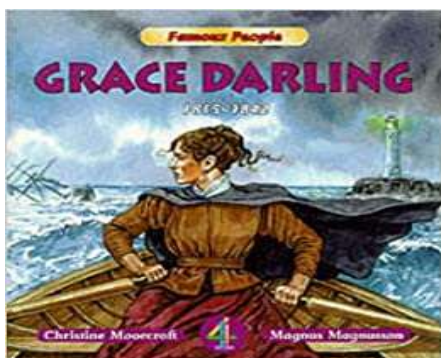
Attention Grabber: Watch BBC History: The Life and Work of Grace Darling dramatization. (11 minutes long) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yv3eS40jON0>

Visits and enrichment activities: Arrange a visit from a RNLI volunteer to give a free presentation <https://rnli.org/youth-education/educational-visits/arrange-a-presentation>

And /Or

Visit the Grace Darling Museum (Bamburgh) and take part in a KS1 Meet Grace Darling workshop (free - donation of £1 per person 2020) e-mail: askgracedarling@rnli.org.uk

Key texts



Learning Objectives:

Learning to:

- Identify Grace Darling as a famous person from history and place her in a historical context.
- Make deductions from simple clues (i.e. infer information from pictures.)
- Pose questions about the person they are investigating.
- Understand that not all versions of the rescue are the same.
- Explain how versions differ.
- Offer (tentative) reasons as to why the versions are not the same.
- Identify some appropriate ways of commemorating a famous person's life and achievements.
- Look for similarities and differences between Grace's life and life in the present.

Learning about:

- The sequence of events on the night of the rescue.
- Why people become famous.
- The life of a famous person in the past.

Examples of Key Questions:

- *Who was Grace Darling?
- *Why is she remembered today?
- *What does the word famous mean?
- *Why was Grace Darling seen as famous at the time?
- *What was Grace's everyday life like?
- *Why did Grace Darling act the way she did?
- *Why did she persuade her father to carry out the rescue?
- *Did Grace Darling really carry out the brave rescue on her own?
- *If Grace's dad was with her in the rescue boat why is he not shown in all of the pictures?
- *Why was Grace shown alone in the boat?
- *Why were Grace's actions seen as so special?
- *How do we know about Grace Darling's actions which happened long ago?
- *How did sea rescue improve after Grace Darling's heroic act?
- *What can we learn from Grace Darling's example?
- *How are people in trouble at sea rescued today?

Impact / Assessment:

Most Children will: (secure)

- *know some of the main events in Grace Darling's life and be able to sequence them correctly.
- *give at least one reason for her actions
- *use pictures to find out about Grace Darling
- *recount the story of the rescue
- *be able (in role) talk about the feelings of the characters in the events
- *make a suggestion about why there are different interpretations of the rescue

Less Able Children will: (developing)

- *be able to sequence some of the events in Grace Darling's life correctly.
- *recount an episode from the life of Grace Darling.

More Able Children will: (greater depth)

- *provide a more detailed account of the life and work of Grace Darling.
- *identify a number of different reasons for her actions.
- *understand how we know about Grace Darling from the evidence available.
- *be able to talk about the links between the heroism of Grace Darling and RNLI medal winners today.



History Overview

Vocabulary:

brave	coble boat	daring
engines	Farne Islands	father
Forfarshire	Grace Darling	heroine
heroic	island	lifeboat
lighthouse	Longstone	medal
Northumberland	oar	passengers
remembered	rescued	RNLI
rowing boat	saved	steamship
storm	sunk	survivors
telescope	vessel	Victorian
waves	William Darling	wreck

