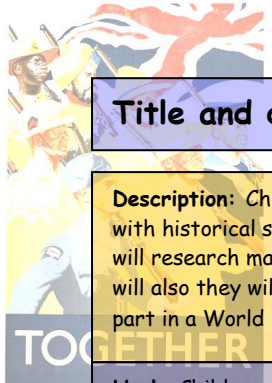


## Medium term planner - Portal to the Past 1939-1945



**Title and duration:** Portal to the Past; 10 weeks

**Year group:** Y4: Spring 2, Summer 1

**Description:** Children will gain a greater understanding about life as a child during the Second World War. They will write stories with historical settings and empathise with children from the past by writing diary accounts, recounts and through drama. They will research main events during the war and produce a range of outcomes including artwork, writing, discussion and drama. They will also they will compare the types of food and clothing available during war time and now. Based on this the children will take part in a World War 2 Day and present their learning to parents.

**Hook:** Children will be introduced to this topic using a mystery suitcase full of different items to think about, their functions and who owns them. The children will take part in an Evacuation Day, experience and be part of a performance from Rainbow Theatre (a production company) and participate various other Evacuee activities such as making gas masks, writing a letter home and being picked by host families. The children will also understand what an air raid siren was used for and practise reacting to one. During this topic the children will visit the Watercress Line and experience what it was actually like to be evacuated.

**Learning value 1:**

- Independence - Children will undertake an independent homework project making a comparison between food in WW2 and the present day.
- Enquiry- Children will generate their own questions concerning what they would like to find out about WW2.
- Interpretation - Children will use evidence to draw conclusions about WW2.

**Quality Texts**

- The Lion and the Unicorn - Shirley Hughes
- Little Ships - Louise Borden
- Goodnight Mr Tom - Michelle Magorian
- Letters From the Lighthouse - Emma Carroll
- Poetry and short texts required

**Literacy:** Children will begin by reading and writing a range of poems. They will then read a variety of short stories set in the past and use a range of stimuli to produce setting descriptions. There will be a strong focus on grammar and punctuation. They will learn to emphasise with characters from WW2. They will then use these skills to create stories set in WW2 and to write recounts. The children will also prepare and present an oral presentation.

**History:** Life as a child in WW2 - evacuation, rationing, The Blitz. The children will learn about the causes of war and how it would have affected children's lives. They will also learn what has been done since to avoid wars and how our country is different now as a result of what happened?

**Geography:** The children will look at a variety of different maps from the era and compare them to modern day maps. They will locate significant places on a map (Axis and Allies). The children will research key events, such as Dunkirk, using atlases. The children will also look at trade routes before rationing and use atlases to discuss the impact of the Blitz on the UK.

**Application subject:** Art - Pastel work based on the book 'The Little Ships', the evacuation of Dunkirk.

**Application subject:** ICT **We are musicians** -children will record compositions to create a soundtrack to a piece of WW2 work. **We are HTML editors**- children will write simple HTML code to produce their own website page.

**Application of science-**

**Sound** - Children will understand how sounds are made, investigating pitch and patterns of sound.  
**P.E. and French not linked**

**RE: Christianity** - Children will learn about the Paschal candle and examine the key concept of "ritual".

**Potential links to local, national, international communities:** Children will look at artefacts gathered from various places including the Petersfield Museum. Watercress Line, D-Day museum and a talk from an evacuee host.

**RRR and Values Links:** Using the creation of the UN after the war the children create a peace treaty. Children discuss the reasons for evacuation and how it was done to protect children. Children look at propaganda, the messages that it gave and how it influenced people's opinions.

**Home study:** Children to research and make a comparison between foods eaten during the war and now.

**Outcome:** To close our topic, we will hold VE Day celebrations when the children will empathise with how children felt when they heard that the war had finally ended. As part of the day, the children will enjoy celebratory food, listen to traditional music and play traditional games. The children will present their learning to parents at the end of the topic, displaying a selection of their work, homework projects and oral presentations of the key facts that they have learnt.