

## WORLD WAR ONE AND WITHERNSEA LIGHTHOUSE - TEACHERS NOTES



WITHERNSEA LIGHTHOUSE AND WORLD WAR ONE

A visit to Withernsea Lighthouse is an ideal way to study local history and World War One.

### Links to the National Curriculum;

- **at KS1 History for a study of**
  - significant historical events, people and places in their own locality and
  - changes within living memory.
  
- **at KS2 History - for a study of**
  - a local history study
  - a study of an aspect of history or a site dating from a period beyond 1066 that is significant in the locality
  
- **at KS3 History - for a study of**
  - the First World War
  - a local history study
    - a depth study linked to the First World War
    - a study over time, testing how far sites in their locality reflect aspects of national history (some sites may predate 1066)

## KS1- WORLD WAR ONE AND WITHERNSEA LIGHTHOUSE-PRE & POST VISIT SUGGESTIONS

### BEFORE YOUR VISIT

To get the most out of your visit to Withernsea Lighthouse here are a few suggestions of activities that children could work on before their visit.

#### 1. What is a lighthouse and why are lighthouses round?

We suggest that before your visit children spend some time investigating lighthouses, their shape and why they were important.

- Images of Withernsea Lighthouse can be found on:
  - <http://www.withernsealighthouse.co.uk/>
  - <http://withernsea1.co.uk/Lighthouse.html>
- Story books that might be useful:
  - Storytime: The Littlest Lighthouse Keeper by Heidi Howarth
  - Leapfrog Rhyme Time: Lighthouse Mouse by Anne Adeney
- Children might like to experiment with different 3D shapes to construct a lighthouse and consider:
  - Why lighthouses need to be round/cylindrical
  - Why lighthouses need to be tall.
  - Why lighthouses have spiral staircases.

#### 2. Why and when was Withernsea Lighthouse built?

- Ask children why they think it would be important to build a lighthouse in Withernsea.
- Using old maps and/or photographs of Withernsea children could investigate why the lighthouse was built inland. Some historical maps of Withernsea can be found here <http://withernsea1.co.uk/HistoricalMaps.html>
- Children could create a class timeline of the life of Withernsea Lighthouse, and Withernsea, using images from 1892-1976, including significant local events such as Queen Victoria's Jubilee, World War One, Kay Kendall's birth, etc. A good selection of images can be found on:
  - <http://withernsea1.co.uk/Railway.html>
  - <http://withernsea1.co.uk/History.html>
  - <http://withernsea1.co.uk/OldArialPhotos.html>
- Children might enjoy listening to and/or reading sections of the poem "*I am Withernsea Lighthouse*" by Richard Charles, which includes some descriptions of events in Withernsea. A reading of the poem can be found on [https://www.facebook.com/RcpoemsRichardCharlesPoems/posts/10201043437080855?stream\\_ref=5](https://www.facebook.com/RcpoemsRichardCharlesPoems/posts/10201043437080855?stream_ref=5)
- Children could then create their own poems or stories about Withernsea Lighthouse
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### 3. What did Lighthouses do during World War One?

Lighthouses were vitally important in World War One to protect the coastline from enemy ships. They were sometimes camouflaged and they did not always show their lights.

- Children might enjoy thinking about how they would camouflage a lighthouse- perhaps creating their own designs to camouflage Withernsea Lighthouse.

### 4. Why did Soldiers come to Withernsea in World War One?

Many soldiers came to Withernsea to train at Thirtle Bridge Camp before they went to war. The soldiers were away from their homes and families for a very long time. Some soldiers also recovered from their injuries in Withernsea Convalescent Home and Hospital.

- Children might like to think about how soldiers might have felt being away from their families at the training camp and in the hospital. Some soldiers wrote letters home from Thirtle camp.
  - Children might like to listen to and/or read the **Arthur Lamb Letter in Source 1- Letters from Soldiers.**
  - **Owen Ashton** -was a Welsh soldier who was at Thirtle Bridge. Most of his letters were in Welsh but there is an English translation of one of his letters here [http://education.gtj.org.uk/trails/wwo/wwo3a\\_translate.html](http://education.gtj.org.uk/trails/wwo/wwo3a_translate.html)

### 5. YOUR VISIT TO WITHERNSEA LIGHTHOUSE

On your visit to Withernsea Lighthouse please divide your class into two groups of 15 children.

- One half of the group will climb the 144 steps to the top of the lighthouse. When at the top of the lighthouse they can discuss:
  - How many steps they have climbed?
  - What can they see directly east and west of the Lighthouse?
  - How tall is the lighthouse? (feet and metres)
  - Why they think that the Lighthouse would be important in World War One.
- The other half of the group will collect information about the soldiers coming to Withernsea in World War One.
  - How did soldiers travel to Withernsea?
  - What would they pack their clothes in?
  - What sorts of things would they need to pack?
  - Label a map of Thirtle Bridge camp
  - Discover the Princess Mary box sent to soldiers overseas- what was in it? .
  - Look at the Owthorne register of 1876- How many boys were there? Would they have been old enough to fight in World War One?
  - Use the Silk embroidered postcards as inspiration to sketch a design for a postcard home from a soldier.

- Find the photograph of Withernsea Convalescent Home and Hospital and think about how soldiers might have felt in the hospital. Would they have been comforted by Nurse Cavell's lamp?

## 6. AFTER YOUR VISIT

After the visit to Withernsea Lighthouse children could discuss what they discovered on their trip and the way that soldiers might have felt being away from home

- Children might like to use the Source 2- "Gifts to Soldiers" resource to create their own list of items they would like to send to a soldier away from home. They might like to decorate and pack a shoebox with the items their class has chosen to send to a soldier at Thirtle Camp or Withernsea Convalescent Home and Hospital
- Children might like to design their own postcard for a soldier to send home, using their designs inspired by the display.
- Children might like to create a class display about their visit to Withernsea Lighthouse which might include:
  - Models of camouflaged lighthouses
  - How important Lighthouses were in World War One.
  - Diagrams of Thirtle Bridge Camp
  - How Soldiers travelled to Withernsea
  - Their shoebox gift to soldiers
  - Their postcard designs

### Other Resources

- There is a useful list of books on World War One put together by Leeds School Library Service here <http://www.leeds.gov.uk/docs/World%20War%201%20booklist%202014.pdf>
- Association of Lighthouse Keepers <http://www.alk.org.uk/index.html>
- Trinity House [http://www.trinityhouse.co.uk/news\\_info/press-resources/faqs.html#23](http://www.trinityhouse.co.uk/news_info/press-resources/faqs.html#23)
- Yorkshire in World War One <http://www.yorkmuseumstrust.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/1914-in-Yorkshire-WEB.pdf>
- Training to be a soldier <http://www.1914-1918.net/training.htm>

## KS2- WORLD WAR ONE AND WITHERNSEA LIGHTHOUSE- PRE & POST VISIT SUGGESTIONS

### 1. Why build a Lighthouse at Withernsea?

Children could investigate the changing landscape of Withernsea and how and why the town has grown through using maps of the local area.

- Map of the main lighthouses in Britain can be found here <http://www.genuki.org.uk/big/Lighthouses/>
- Coastal Erosion and the Lost Towns of Holderness By Gordon Ostler. <http://www.hullgeolsoc.org.uk/gordon.htm>
  - The Roman shoreline <http://www.hullgeolsoc.org.uk/gord7.gif>
- Some historical maps of Withernsea can be found here <http://withernsea1.co.uk/HistoricalMaps.html>
- 18th century map of Withernsea by Cary can be found here <http://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/s/nz5rqqa>
- The National Library of Scotland has various maps of 19th and 20th century Withernsea
  - 1855 <http://maps.nls.uk/view/102345037>
  - 1895 <http://maps.nls.uk/view/101169623>
  - 1910 <http://maps.nls.uk/view/100948094>
  - 1948 <http://maps.nls.uk/view/100948088>
  - 1952 <http://maps.nls.uk/view/100948085>
- Vision of Britain also has various ordnance survey maps from the 19th and 20th century  
<http://www.visionofbritain.org.uk/maps/?jsessionid=A49FF110F9E21D4DF39FD333AF84D4EE?layer=europe&xMin=3347462.03852&yMin=3010201.00749&xMax=3384462.03852&yMax=3047201.00749>

### 2. What did Lighthouse keepers do?

- Children could investigate the life of a lighthouse keeper and the different jobs that were necessary. There are some first hand accounts from lighthousekeepers on-line which can be found here; <http://www.lighthousekeepers.co.uk/index.php/mnu-histories>
- Lighthouses were vitally important in World War One to protect the coastline from enemy ships. They were sometimes camouflaged and they did not always show their lights.
  - Children might like to investigate what happened to the lighthouse in Withernsea during World War One using Source3- Lights Out in Withernsea?
  - Children could investigate the role of Lighthouses during World War One and perhaps design their own camouflage designs for Withernsea Lighthouse.

### 3. Withernsea and WW1

Many families in Withernsea sent men to fight in World War One including the family of Kay Kendall's mother, Gladys Drewery. Kay Kendall's grandfather, Robert Drewery, was a coxswain of the local lifeboat and helped to build the Lighthouse.

- Children might like to investigate the census returns for the Drewery family for 1901 and 1911 Source 4- Drewery Family Census Returns- How many sons would be eligible to fight in World War One?.
- Children might also like to investigate what life was like in Withernsea during the War using the following sources
  - Source 5- Food shortages during the war
  - Source 6- Holidays at Withernsea during the war

#### **4. Withernsea and Thirtle Bridge Camp in WW1**

Many soldiers came to Withernsea to train at Thirtle Bridge Camp before they went to war.

- Children might like to investigate Thirtle Bridge Camp. There are images of the remains of the camp here <http://www.tolkiensociety.org/blog/2014/08/in-tolkiens-genuine-footsteps/>
- Children might like to investigate what life was like in an army training camp. The research at Cannock Chase might be useful and can be found here <http://www.staffspastrack.org.uk/exhibit/chasecamps/life.htm>
- Children might like to find out what sorts of things soldiers did in their spare time -at Thirtle Bridge- using Source 7- Thirtle Bridge

#### **5. YOUR VISIT TO WITHERNSEA LIGHTHOUSE**

On your visit to Withernsea Lighthouse please divide your class into two groups of 15 children.

- One half of the group will climb the 144 steps to the top of the lighthouse. When at the top of the lighthouse they can discuss:
  - Why they think that the Lighthouse would be important in World War One.
- The other half of the group will collect information about the soldiers coming to Withernsea in World War One.
  - Recruiting an Army- look at the pictures of the recruits from Wenlock Barracks in Hull - - what would they have been feeling?
  - Label a map of Thirtle Bridge camp
  - Look at the Owthorne register of 1876- How many boys were there? Would they have been old enough to fight in World War One? Record their names.
  - Use the Silk embroidered postcards as inspiration to sketch a design for a postcard home from a soldier.
  - Find the photograph of Withernsea Convalescent Home and Hospital and think about how soldiers might have felt in the hospital. Would they have been comforted by Nurse Cavell's lamp?
  - Find the list of names of those who served in the Great War and record their names.

#### **6 AFTER YOUR VISIT-**

- After the visit to Withernsea Lighthouse children could research Withernsea and Thirtle Bridge Camp in WW1
  - Children might like to investigate the careers of soldiers who passed through Thirtle Bridge.

- The reminiscences of Richard Faulkner Ackerley of Salford can be found here <http://salfordwarmemorials.proboards.com/thread/2042/2nd-lieutenant-richard-faulkner-ackerley>
  - Information on Private Joseph Lister of Wethery can be found here <http://wetherbywarmemorial.com/id66.html>
- Children might like to think about how soldiers might have felt being away from their families at the training camp and in the hospital. Some soldiers wrote letters home from Thirtle camp.
  - Children might like to read the **Arthur Lamb Letter Source 1. Other** letters by Arthur Lamb from Thirtle Camp to his mother can be found here "Letters of Arthur Lamb to mother" <http://www.europeana1914-1918.eu/en/contributions/4920>
  - **Owen Ashton** -was a Welsh soldier who was at Thirtle Bridge. Most of his letters were in Welsh but there is an English translation of one of his letters here [http://education.gtj.org.uk/trails/wwo/wwo3a\\_translate.html](http://education.gtj.org.uk/trails/wwo/wwo3a_translate.html)
    - His Welsh letters home, with English summaries of the contents can be found here <http://education.gtj.org.uk/en/item10/2107> and here <http://www.peoplescollectionwales.co.uk/collections/377297>
- Children might like to investigate the list of boys in Owthorne school in 1876
  - Discover if they fought in the East Yorkshire Regiment. The East Yorkshire Regiment database -<http://www.yorkshire-heroes.co.uk/> and here [http://www.east-yorkshire-regiment.co.uk/\\_content/dbase/dinsdale\\_list.php](http://www.east-yorkshire-regiment.co.uk/_content/dbase/dinsdale_list.php)
  - Find out where they lived using the free 1881 census online here <https://familysearch.org/search/collection/1321821>
- Children might also like to investigate the Withernsea War Memorial.
  - A list of names can be found here [http://www.genuki.org.uk/big/eng/YKS/Misc/PhotoTs/ERY/WithernseaWM\\_0.html](http://www.genuki.org.uk/big/eng/YKS/Misc/PhotoTs/ERY/WithernseaWM_0.html)
  - Source 8- Withernsea War memorial newspaper extracts on the War Memorial
  - Source 9- Withernsea Casualties
  - Source 10- Withernsea Soldiers
  - The cost of War memorial can be found here <http://www.withernseatowncouncil.co.uk/index.asp?mid=&mid2=177>

### Other Resources

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## **KS3- WORLD WAR ONE AND WITHERNSEA LIGHTHOUSE- PRE & POST VISIT SUGGESTIONS**

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- Children might also like to investigate what life was like in Withernsea during the War using the following sources
  - Source 5- Food Shortages during the War, Source 3- Lights Out in Withernsea
  - Source 8- Withernsea War memorial newspaper extracts on the War Memorial
  - Source 9- Withernsea Casualties, Source 10- Withernsea Soldiers

#### **2. Withernsea and Thirtle Bridge Camp in WW1**

Many soldiers came to Withernsea to train at Thirtle Bridge Camp before they went to war.

- Children might like to design their own recruitment poster using Source 11- Recruitment
- Children might like to investigate Thirtle Bridge Camp. There are images of the remains of the camp here <http://www.tolkiensociety.org/blog/2014/08/in-tolkiens-genuine-footsteps/>
- Children might like to investigate what life was like in an army training camp. The research at Cannock Chase might be useful and can be found here <http://www.staffspastrack.org.uk/exhibit/chasecamps/life.htm>
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- Find the list of names of those who served in the Great War and record their names.

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  - Newspaper extracts on casualties and the costs of the War Memorial - Sources 8 & 9.
  - The cost of War memorial can be found here <http://www.withernseatowncouncil.co.uk/index.asp?mid=&mid2=177>

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- Yorkshire in World War One <http://www.yorkmuseumstrust.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/1914-in-Yorkshire-WEB.pdf>

- Training to be a soldier <http://www.1914-1918.net/training.htm>