



Year 6 History Knowledge Organiser:

The Windrush - Is society more inclusive in 2020?



Subject Specific Skills

- Order significant events, movements and dates on a timeline.
- Identify and compare changes within and across different periods.
- Understand how some historical events occurred concurrently in different locations.
- Evaluate evidence to choose the most reliable forms.
- Know that people both in the past have a point of view and that this can affect interpretation.
- Give clear reasons why there may be different accounts of history, linking this to factual understanding of the past.
- Use documents, printed sources (e.g. archive materials) the Internet, databases, pictures, photographs, music, artefacts, historic buildings, visits to museums and galleries and visits to sites to collect evidence about the past.
- Choose reliable sources of evidence to answer questions, realising that there is often not a single answer to historical questions.
- Investigate own lines of enquiry by posing questions to answer.
- Communicate ideas about from the past using different genres of writing, drawing, diagrams, data-handling, drama, storytelling and using ICT.
- Plan and present a self-directed project or research about the studied period.

Prior Learning

World War II – The Battle of Britain and the Blitz – damage/effect on Britain
Scots, Romans, Anglo-Saxons & Vikings – Migration and Movement to Britain.

Key Individuals:

Norma Best	A volunteer who, aged 20, travelled to Britain to serve in the forces.
Connie Mark	Joined the Auxiliary Territorial Service (ATS) at 21 and served in Jamaica as a medical secretary.
Lucilda Harris	Born in Jamaica, one of the few women passengers who travelled to England on the Empire Windrush in May/June 1948.
Mona Baptiste	A Trinidad-born singer and actress who worked in London and Germany. Migrated on the Empire Windrush in 1948.
Sam King MBE	Arrived in England as an RAF engineer during WWII but returned to Jamaica in 1947. Returned to London on the Empire Windrush in 1948.
Allan Wilmot	Born in Jamaica in 1925. Volunteered to join the Royal Navy in 1941. In 1944 he volunteered for RAF service, and joined the air sea rescue team.
CY Grant	Guyanese actor, musician, writer and poet. Served in the RAF during WWII and became the first black person to feature regularly on television in Britain during the 1950s.
Harold Phillips	Born in Trinidad. Joined the RAF underage and served in WWII. Sang calypso back in Trinidad in 1947 before returning to England in 1948 on the HMT Empire Windrush.
Oswald Denniston	Sailed from Jamaica on the Empire Windrush. He was the first of the Windrush passengers, according to the Daily Express, to get a job.

Key Vocabulary

Immigration – the process of moving to another country with plans to live there forever.
Migrant – a person who has chosen to live in a country where they were not born.
Citizenship – being a legal member of a country and having rights there because of it.
Nationality – a person's nationality indicates which country they were born in.
Racism – the belief that some races are better than others and the (racist) actions that can happen from those beliefs.
Commonwealth – a legacy of Empire which has Queen Elizabeth II as its Head.
Deportation – to force someone to return to the country they came from usually because they have no legal right to be there or because they have broken the law.
Discrimination - to treat someone unjustly or unfairly because of appearance, age, skin colour, gender, sexuality, nationality, family background, level of education or religious beliefs.
Windrush Generation – those that came to the UK from (mainly) the West Indies at the invitation of the British government to live and work. This includes children who did not have their own passport but travelled on their parent's passports.
Resistance - the refusal to accept or comply with an instruction that is considered to be unfair, unjust or unreasonable.

Timeline:

Date	Key Event
1833	Slavery is abolished in Britain, meaning enslaved Africans were now free.
1931	Creation of the Commonwealth of Nations – known commonly as the Commonwealth.
1939 - 1945	British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain declares war on Germany, signalling the beginning of World War 2. The war lasts five years, ending with Germany's surrender on 2 nd September, 1945.
21 June 1948	The Empire Windrush docks at Tilbury, Essex carrying 1,027 passengers (and 2 stowaways), mainly from the Caribbean, hoping for a new life in Britain.
10 March 2018	A British political scandal concerning the "Windrush generation" that challenged the right for these migrants and their families to reside in the UK despite being promised the right to remain.



"My parents brought me on the Windrush ... it was obvious they came in search of a better life...it was quite a devastating experience... but personally I like England; it's a nice place to live. It's not to say it doesn't have its problems, racism and so on."

Vince Reid, passenger on the 'Windrush'

Key Knowledge:

In 1948, Britain was starting to recover from the damage suffered following the Second World War. Thousands of buildings had been bombed and lots of houses were destroyed – it all needed to be rebuilt.
 After the war, Britain encouraged immigration from Commonwealth countries. To a large extent, this was to help rebuild the country as there was a shortage of labour at the time. When the Empire Windrush passenger ship docked at Tilbury Docks from Jamaica on 22 June 1948, it marked the start of the post-war immigration boom which was to change British society. Windrush carried 1,027 migrants who were coming to a country promising prosperity and employment. Among them were the calypso artists Lord Kitchener and Lord Beginner. Many Caribbean men and women had served in the British armed forces because at the time, many West Indian islands were still under British rule and were not yet independent. After the war, some of these people answered an advert to come to Britain, where there were lots of different jobs to do. Other people just wanted to come and see a country they had heard so much about.

