



World War II and the Blitz in Plymouth

Pre-visit resource



Museum
Gallery
Archive

World War II and the Blitz in Plymouth

Key Stage 2

About this pre-visit resource

This pre-visit resource gives you detailed information about the session you are attending with your class, as well as some extra tips about our venue, so that you can be well prepared for your visit to The Box.

About this workshop

This workshop takes place in the **Simmons Learning Room** at The Box. During the session, students are challenged to find out about what happened during The Blitz in Plymouth through a series of challenges. Students are given five characters – based on real people and events in Plymouth – and explore a range of objects and information related to that character. Each challenge reveals clues, which the students piece together to discover more about the Blitz in Plymouth.

Curriculum links

History
Local History



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Detailed Workshop Outline

The session begins by the Schools Learning Facilitator introducing the students to their challenge: **“You are an Undercover Reporter in 1941 and your mission is to find out what is happening in Plymouth and report back to the Truth Minister. We understand that the press and the government have been censoring information and you need to find out the truth.”**.

1. The students then devise questions using what/who/why/when/how/where/which prompts, about what they would like to find out.
2. The students are presented with a giant map of Plymouth from 1945, which they are challenged to populate with the information that they find out.
3. Five sets of handling objects are then given out to the class, representing five different characters. The students will learn object enquiry skills to support their exploration of the objects.
4. After exploring the objects, the students have to decide based on the evidence the character that each box represents.
5. Diary entries for each character are then provided, which the students use to populate a giant map of Plymouth with information that they have found out.
6. Students are given flags, to populate the map further with where the secret information that they have found out goes.
7. Students are then given a riddle to solve. The answer to the riddle is further information that they can add to the map.
8. To conclude the session, the Schools Learning Facilitator will summarise what the students have learnt during their session, and the teacher will be invited to take a photo of the map, to take back to school.

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Key themes

Key themes of the workshop include:

- World War II
- The Blitz
- Plymouth

Key vocabulary

Key and new vocabulary covered in the workshop includes:

- Blitz
- Bomb
- Air raid
- Dockyard
- Map
- RAF
- Civil Defence
- Pilot
- Embargo

Preparing for your session

There are LOADS of resources available online which your students can explore to develop their knowledge and understanding of World War II. For a flipped-classroom approach boosting your students' independent research, we really like the resources available from Khan Academy.

Visit Charles Church in Plymouth or show photos of it to your class. Discuss the impact of using buildings as memorials with your class.

Plan a pre-visit to The Box before you come with your class, so you are familiar with the environment and spaces before your visit.

Visit the galleries

The galleries at The Box hold objects and archives about the topic you have explored in this session, as well as other fascinating subjects. To find out more about this topic, visit these galleries at The Box:

Active Archives

Risk assessment

To help you to write your risk assessment for your visit, we have created a Teachers Hazard Assessment which holds common risks and solutions that you might want to include. Visit this page <https://www.theboxplymouth.com/schools/school-visits> for the Hazard Identification Sheet.

Visit our website for the
latest offers, news and
projects for schools
and to book your
experience with us:
theboxplymouth.com

