



Pioneering Nurses



Pupils will learn

- Develop an awareness of the past
- Use common words and phrases relating to the passing of time
- Know where all people/events studied fit into a chronological framework
- Identify different ways in which the past is represented
- Identify similarities / differences between ways of life at different times
- Identify important changes that took place
- Recognise why people did things, why events happened and what happened as a result
- Make simple observations about different types of people, events, beliefs within a society
- Talk about who and what was important giving reasons eg in a simple historical account

Important facts

Mary Seacole 1805-1881

- Mary was born in Jamaica.
- Her father was a Scottish soldier and her mother was a Jamaican nurse and healer.
- When she was 12, she helped her mother run a boarding house in Kingston for sick and injured soldiers.
- In 1836, Mary married Edwin Seacole.
- On hearing news of British soldiers going off to Russia to fight in the Crimean War she wanted to help.
- In 1866 she set off to the Crimea on a ship stocked with medical supplies.
- She opened a "British Hotel" near to the battlefields. It was a place where soldiers could rest and buy hot food, drinks and equipment.
- Mary used the money spent there to help treat and care for sick and wounded soldiers.
- She received a number of medals for her bravery from governments in different countries.
- Mary so was caring, she became known amongst the soldiers as "Mother Seacole"

Florence Nightingale 1820-1910

- She was born in 1820 in Italy.
- Her family moved to England when she was just a baby.
- She believed that God wanted her to spend her life looking after people so she became a nurse.
- When the Crimean War started Florence went to look after the soldiers who had been hurt.
- The soldiers called her 'The lady with the lamp' because she walked around the wards at night with a lantern.
- Florence spent her life trying to make hospitals better places for everybody.
- The Nightingale Fund was established for the training of nurses. Florence 'changed the world' by changing how sick people were cared for across Britain and the world.
- She was awarded the Royal Red Cross by Queen Victoria in 1

Home Learning Ideas

Use a map to find Norwich, Jamaica and the Crimea.

<https://www.natgeokids.com/uk/discover/history/general-history/mary-seacole/>

<https://www.natgeokids.com/uk/discover/history/general-history/florence-nightingale/>

Books to read at home

- Little People, Big Dreams - Florence Nightingale
- Hoorah for Mary Seacole (Hopscotch: Histories)

Inquiry Questions

Why do we remember Mary Seacole and Florence Nightingale?

- Why do we think Florence Nightingale is remembered?
- Why did Florence place herself in such danger by going to the Crimea?
- What did Florence do to improve the lives of the soldiers when she arrived in the Crimea?
- What did people really think of Florence Nightingale?
- What was Florence Nightingale's greatest achievement?
- How do we know so much about Florence Nightingale when she lived so long ago?
- How can we work out why Mary Seacole is famous?
- What were the most important events in Mary's life?
- What was Mary's greatest achievement and how do we know?
- How did life change for Mary after the Crimean war?
- Should Florence Nightingale rather than Mary Seacole have her statue at St. Thomas' hospital?

Further Information



Mary Seacole Florence Nightingale



Key Vocabulary

Crimea	The Crimea is a piece of land surrounded by water on three sides. It lies on the north shore of the Black Sea in Ukraine, a country in eastern Europe.	hygiene	Good personal hygiene will help you stay healthy e.g. washing hands and surfaces.
infection	When germs get inside your body, they can multiply and cause an infection (to be ill).	nurse	Look after people who are unwell or hurt.
hospital	A place where the sick and injured are given medical care.	disease	a change in a person, animal or plant that prevents it from functioning normally.
pioneer	A person who begins or helps develop something new and prepares the way for others to follow.	entrepreneur	An entrepreneur is someone who decides to create or run a business, even though he or she might lose some money.
long ago	Distant past	centuries	A period of 100 years.
past	Time which has gone by.	Georgian era	The Georgian era is a period in British history from 1714 to c. 1830–37, named after the Hanoverian Kings George I, George II, George III and George IV.
present	Happening now.	Victorian era	The Victorian era is what we call the time that Queen Victoria reigned: 1837-1901.
biography	True story of someone's life.	Significant Person	An important person

* Words in grey are Tier 2 (non-topic specific) vocabulary