

DUNDEE

DURING THE GREAT WAR

Great War Dundee is a Heritage Lottery Funded partnership formed to commemorate the First World War and its impact on Dundee. We have worked with teachers and Education Scotland to create this education pack which we hope will support and encourage teachers when teaching the First World War to their classes.

The pack contains: a teacher's guide, a pupil's workbook, six lessons, and accompanying material. All of the material can be freely downloaded from www.greatwardundee.com.

Great War Dundee is always keen to work with schools and engage schoolchildren of all ages. If you have any ideas for a project, would like advice, or if you have more questions about this pack, please get in touch with us at info@greatwardundee.com.



With thanks to

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INTRODUCTORY LESSON

LESSON AIM:

To help pupils understand the relevance of studying the past and looking at a global event from a local perspective.



STARTER ACTIVITY:

You will need: Introductory Lesson PowerPoint

Pupils will need: —

Guide pupils through Introductory Lesson PowerPoint slides 1–4 and generate some discussion as to the point of studying history.



ACTIVITY:

You will need: Introductory Lesson PowerPoint

Pupils will need: Great War Dundee workbook

Give pupils a copy of the Great War Dundee workbook. Page 2 introduces pupils to Joseph Lee who will guide pupils through the pack. Upon reaching slide 5 select 6 volunteers and number each 1–6. Each pupil is to read their relevant paragraphs out to the class from page 3 in the workbook.



PLENARY ACTIVITY:

You will need: Introductory Lesson PowerPoint

Pupils will need: Jotters

Slide 6: Pupils are to complete the sentences about Joseph Lee by matching the correct start to the correct end and then noting them into their jotters. The start of each sentence (*the head*) is in the green box and the end (*the tail*) is in the gold box.

LESSON 1: RECRUITMENT

LESSON AIM:

To create a recruitment poster with a Dundee theme to attract men to join the fight.
SAL 4: becoming aware of change, cause and effect, sequence and chronology.



STARTER ACTIVITY:

You will need: Recruitment PowerPoint

Pupils will need: Jotter, coloured pencils and/or pens

Slide 2 of the Recruitment PowerPoint features '*Glad That I Killed Yer*', a poem by Joseph Lee. Read and discuss the poem with pupils, a selection of discussion points are listed below. As an additional activity, pupils could draw a sketch to illustrate the poem/their responses to the poem.

1. How does this poem make you feel?
2. What kind of source is this?
3. Do you think this poem represents an accurate picture of what life was like for soldiers during WW1? Explain your answer.
4. Do you think the author is a reliable source of information for WW1? Explain your answer.
5. What do you think Joseph Lee's attitude towards the enemy is? Pick out words or phrases that make you think this.



ACTIVITY:

You will need: —

Pupils will need: Great War Dundee workbook

Work through page 4 of the workbook, pupils should answer Lee's questions. Upon reaching page 5, select four pupils and number them 1–4. Ask each pupil to read their paragraph to the class. This will guide the class through the introductory reading to this lesson.



ACTIVITY:

You will need: Recruitment PowerPoint and additional Recruitment images

Pupils will need: Great War Dundee workbook, paper and colouring pens/pencils

Work through slides 3–8 and discuss the five different recruitment themes of Adventure, Guilt, Patriotism, Romance, and Shame. Page 6 introduces pupils to the next activity – designing a recruitment poster inspired by one of the five themes. The themes are included in the workbook on page 7 as a reminder for pupils. Posters should include a picture or slogan that links to Dundee in some way. The nature of this task means that this may take more than one lesson. The additional Recruitment images are Recruitment posters specifically relating to Dundee and Scotland – these could be use as handouts or passed around the class.



PLENARY ACTIVITY:

You will need: —

Pupils will need: Their poster

Ask pupils to stand before the class and deliver a short explanation to their classmates about what theme their poster has targeted, what the picture is intending to show, and what their slogan means.



BONUS ACTIVITY:

You will need: Internet access

Pupils will need: Jotter and Boy Soldiers question sheet

There is a Boy Soldiers' documentary available to watch online and pupils can complete the basic watch and answer questions exercise while it is on. It is not specific to Dundee but could be used as an extension/bonus task to go on from the Recruitment lesson if you have time. It can be hyperlinked from here – www.youtube.com/watch?v=MtmlrjrQbwA or search YouTube for 'Britain's 250,000 boy soldiers in World War I'.

LESSON 2:

CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTORS

LESSON AIMS:

To understand why recruitment changed from voluntary to compulsory. To examine Dundee's connections to 'conscientious objectors'.

SAL 9: developing useful skills for learning, life and work.



STARTER ACTIVITY:

You will need: Conscientious Objectors PowerPoint

Pupils will need: Great War Dundee workbook, dictionaries and jotter

Work through PowerPoint slides 1–3 to set the scene for pupils with regard to moving from recruitment to conscription to conscientious objectors.

Select 5 pupils to read the numbered paragraphs on pages 8–9. As the pupils read there should be a brief pause at the end of each paragraph to allow pupils to note down any words or phrases they are unsure of. When the last paragraph is read (*and before the questions are attempted*) pupils should be given the chance to use dictionaries (*one each, if available*) to note down the meaning of the words in their workbooks.

Pupils should then attempt the questions on page 9 and write their answers in their jotters. All answers are in the passage they have just read.



ACTIVITY:

You will need: Conscientious Objectors PowerPoint

Pupils will need: Great War Dundee workbook

PowerPoint slides 4, 5, and 6: Talk the class through these slides.

Page 10 and PowerPoint slide 7: Pupils should read through this page. It leads into the tale of Bernard Douglas Taylor, a Dundonian man who was a conchie and received a white feather letter which still survives today and was shown on the Antiques Roadshow.

PowerPoint slide 8: Click on the picture to watch the clip from the Antiques Roadshow, it has been hyperlinked and will take you to the BBC website. There are also some points for class discussion and a homework activity.
www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p00dt7kp.



ACTIVITY:

You will need: Conscientious Objectors PowerPoint

Pupils will need: Paper, pens and additional craft materials if time permits i.e., white feathers, tea, etc

PowerPoint slide 9: Pupils are to write a short, anonymous letter to a fellow classmate. They can choose to write as a member of the white feather movement to a suspected conchie or as a conchie to the government explaining their reasons for not wanting to join the army despite conscription. Pupils could tea stain them, add white feathers, seal them with candle wax, etc. if time and resources permit.

Also, if extra information is needed for the pupils and time permits the following sites are good to access further information:

www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-27404266 – BBC news article;

www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p01xl7mk – fantastic and varied audio and video clips regarding British conscientious objectors.

www.spartacus-educational.com/FWWfeather.htm – good for primary source examples of how the pressure led men to join.



PLENARY ACTIVITY:

You will need: —

Pupils will need: —

Give pupils the following broad question: “*Would you be a conscientious objector today and why?*” Give one minute thinking time before selecting two pupils to give their answer to the class.

LESSON 3: JUTE INDUSTRY

LESSON AIM:

To examine the background to the tale of Jute, Dundee and Jute's contribution to the Great War.

SAL 4: becoming aware of change, cause and effect, sequence and chronology.



STARTER ACTIVITY:

You will need: —

Pupils will need: Jotter

Give pupils 1 minute to note down in their jotters as many uses for jute as they can think of, or write a sentence explaining why they think jute was so important to Dundee.



ACTIVITY:

You will need: —

Pupils will need: Great War Dundee workbook and dictionaries

Read pages 11–12, these can be read as a group or individually depending on teacher preference.

Using dictionaries pupils should answer the questions on page 13, trying to build literacy skills throughout this unit of work.



ACTIVITY:

You will need: Jute Industry PowerPoint (*if required*)

Pupils will need: Great War Dundee workbook, paper and pens/pencils

Work through pages 14–15 which cover some of the dangers of working in the textile trade. These build up to a poster advert activity.

Page 16 gives pupils instructions for the next activity – creating an A4 advert as though they are Dundee mill owners advertising for Scavengers and Piecers. The Jute Industry PowerPoint features a selection of images of Dundee Jute Mills and workers for inspiration.



PLENARY ACTIVITY:

You will need: —

Pupils will need: —

Give the pupils the following question: “*Using two facts in your answer explain the importance of jute to Dundee in the past.*” Give 30 seconds thinking time before selecting a pupil to deliver a response.

LESSON 4:

LIVING CONDITIONS

LESSON AIM:

To understand that with the significant growth of industry in Dundee came terrible living conditions for the workers.

SAL 6: using and applying skills in creating models, maps and graphical representation of information.



STARTER ACTIVITY:

You will need: Chalkboard/wipe board and chalk/wipe board pens

Pupils will need: —

Write on the board inside a circle “*What does it take to make a comfortable home?*” Select 5 pupils to come up to the board and note down a different response each.

WHAT
DOES IT TAKE
TO MAKE A
COMFORTABLE
HOME?



ACTIVITY (PART 1):

You will need: —

Pupils will need: Working in groups of four – Great War Dundee workbook, A2 paper, glue, scissors, felt pens, scrap paper for notes and contents of Envelope 1

Page 17: Pupils are to create an A2 information poster entitled '*Living Conditions in Dundee around the time of The Great War*'. They will work in 4s and this will be a cooperative learning style of lesson, but pupils do not need to meet in expert groups. Reminder instructions are included in the workbook.

Pupils will empty Envelope 1 of cut out pictures and text, then they must work together to match the relevant text to the correct picture. They should stick the map onto the centre of the A2 sheet of paper and then stick the pictures/text around the map. Pupils should use arrows (*pen or string*) to link the picture/text to the correct area. The group should circle an area on the map that includes all the poor houses and the jute mills.

To finish the activity, pupils should complete the following task and note their response neatly somewhere on their A2 poster. *Look at where the poor stay compared to the rich. Look at where the jute factories were. Explain why you think Dundee was laid out like this in the years leading to the Great War.*



ACTIVITY (PART 2):

You will need: —

Pupils will need: Envelope 2 – to be shared between a group of four. Envelope 2 also includes Note Cards for pupils to write their findings down, although you may prefer pupils to use their jotters instead

Give groups two copies of Envelope 2 which contains cards marked A and B. Within their groups of four, pupils pair up and are given role A and B. A and B will be shoulder partners. A and B take turns reading their cards to their partner. After each card, they summarise the main point to their partner who notes down what they say using the note cards included in the envelopes.

Pupils then pair up with their face partners to compare the main points that they found. This is done using the '*give one, get one*' style i.e., they share a piece of information one pair at a time. They should tick it off on their list if they have it, add it if they don't.

Pupils all face in as a 4. They must now distil all their information to **four** main points. They should all have a say and choose one point each, but must debate in their group about why they want to include that point. Once they have selected their four points, each pupil takes a turn to add it to a suitable place around the map.



PLENARY ACTIVITY:

You will need: —

Pupils will need: —

Ask the group to discuss their facts and decide which they believe to be the most important fact about living conditions in Dundee before and during WW1. Ask one group member to report back to the class. The group huddle can be employed if required if the pupils forget what s/he is to say.

LESSON 5:

THE BATTLE OF LOOS

LESSON AIM:

To examine the significance of Dundee's contribution to the Battle of Loos.

SAL 1: understanding the place, history, heritage and culture of Scotland and appreciating local and national heritage within the world.

SAL 4: becoming aware of change, cause and effect, sequence and chronology.



STARTER ACTIVITY:

You will need: Chalkboard/wipe board and chalk/wipe board pens

Pupils will need: —

Write "*Battle of Loos*" on the board as suggested. Ask pupils to come up with and note down a word beginning with each letter that relates to the Great War. Pupils are to read page 18 and then answer the questions in their jotters.

B	_____	O	_____	L	_____
A	_____	F	_____	O	_____
T	_____			O	_____
T	_____			S	_____
L	_____				
E	_____				



ACTIVITY:

You will need: —

Pupils will need: Great War Dundee workbook, map of Europe, jotters and glue

Read page 19 with pupils and then give each pupil the map of Europe (*from the Additional Teaching Material*) to stick in their jotters. Using the information they've just read, pupils are to answer questions 1–4 in their jotters.



ACTIVITY:

You will need: —

Pupils will need: Great War Dundee workbook and jotters

Pupils are to work in pairs to read the sources on pages 22–23 and should each copy the table at the bottom of page 24 into their jotters. Pairs should complete the table by gathering information from Sources A–D. The first has been completed as an example.



PLENARY ACTIVITY:

You will need: —

Pupils will need: Great War Dundee workbook and paper

Pupils are to imagine they are a newspaper reporter for the Dundee Courier who has received the information on page 20–21 from one of their sources some time after the battle has taken place.

Pupils are to provide a short report for the people of Dundee explaining the heroism and tragedy surrounding the battle. The success criteria are as follows:

- The report must include four facts
- It should explain the reason for the Battle of Loos taking place
- It should describe the pride the city felt as the 4th Battalion left for war
- It should detail the reasons behind the Battle of Loos and have some brief detail about the battle itself
- It should finish with a statement about why the Battle of Loos should never be forgotten amongst Dundonians

It is suggested that this activity is timed to five minutes and handed in. The success criteria are explained to pupils on page 25.



BONUS ACTIVITY:

You will need: Internet access

Pupils will need: Computer access

Loos: The Fallen Fourth was created as an interactive documentary/game as part of the Great War Dundee project. This can be freely downloaded from <http://greatwardundee.itch.io/loos-the-fallen-fourth> or from via a link on www.greatwardundee.com.

This interactive documentary tells the story of the city of Dundee and how it was affected by a single battle hundreds of miles away. It also tells the story of the 4th Black Watch: Dundee's Own. Use this with pupils to explore the Battle of Loos and its impact upon Dundee.

SOURCES USED

- Great War Dundee website – www.greatwardundee.com
- Friends of Dundee City Archives website – www.fdca.org.uk
- Dundee Football Club website – www.dundeefc.co.uk
- Dundee University website – www.dundee.ac.uk
- BBC website – www.bbc.co.uk
- Scran website – www.scran.ac.uk
- Spartacus Educational website – www.spartacus-educational.com
- British Library website – www.bl.uk
- National Archives website – www.nationalarchives.gov.uk
- The Courier website – www.thecourier.co.uk
- Dundee Heritage Trust website – www.rrsdiscovery.com