

V GLYNN VIVIAN

Teachers resource pack Foundation — KS2

Mary Rose: People and Purpose

This *GVAG Foundation Phase-KS2 Learning Resource* is designed to accompany *Mary Rose: People and Purpose*. The aim of this document is to support the integration of the exhibition into a wider classroom context. The document will introduce the exhibition and propose avenues of exploration that can be used to instigate debate, whilst keeping the lines of interpretation as open as possible. The guide is divided into themes, each with questions and projects relevant to *Foundation Phase-KS2*.



Theme 1: The Battle of the Solent

The Battle of the Solent (1545) was one of many battles within what is now known as the Italian Wars pitching the French and the Ottoman Empire against the British and Italians. The battle itself took place off the south coast of Britain and is most noted for the sinking of the Mary Rose. The Mary Rose was Henry VIII's flagship, indeed the equivalent of £200,000 were spent on flags alone.

The Mary Rose was bristling with guns including older cast iron cannons and modern bronze cannons, which all required shot. The shot displayed here is made of stone however, the ship would have carried many types of shot including iron shot. The ship had been refitted in the mid-1530s to accommodate more artillery, and the upgrade may have contributed in some way to the sinking:

'The only confirmed eyewitness account of the Mary Rose's sinking says that she had fired all of her guns on one side and was turning when she was caught in a strong gust of wind.'

<https://www.maryrose.org/why-did-the-mary-rose-sink/>

It is thought the weight of all the guns caused the ship to become imbalanced. However there may have been other reasons including human error the weather and being holed by enemy fire beneath the waterline. It goes to show that history is not always as straight forward as it seems!

In the gallery: Make a sketch of as many objects as you can from the collection.

Back at class: Using printed wood texture collage a great Tudor boat. You can add other collage textures including sail-cloth, flags and iron. Remember to include some people. Now, create flaps in the side of your artwork and insert your sketches so that you have your own lift-the-flap version. of the Mary Rose. You can finish your artworks off with oil pastel.



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Theme 2: Children on Board

Not everyone was an adult on board the Mary Rose, there were children too. Have a look at the leather jerkin.

Jerkins are leather outer garments usually sleeveless to allow for greater arm movement. The Mary Rose jerkin is quite small and could have belonged to a cabin boy or 'powder monkey', a young boy whose job it was to supply the cannons on board a ship with gunpowder. They might have been as young as 12 or 13 years old. That's not very much older than you!

Can you imagine in a few years time being thrust into the middle of battle, cannons blasting, smoke filling the decks and the threat disaster at every turn!

In the gallery: Many of the items here are every day objects, a knit comb, a jerkin a shoe. Draw a little #itinerary of the objects found on board. Look at the tiny details and add any information you would like to your drawing.

Back at class: Can you make a comic from the point of view of the powder monkey? Try writing the story of the Mary Rose from his point of view and then adding pictures.



Theme 3: Longbows

The 'Anthony Roll' is an illustrated inventory of the vessels within Henry's fleet together with a list of the men and weapons on board the Mary Rose. This included 185 soldiers, 200 mariners and thirty gunners.

Smaller personal weapons were also important. There were 250 bows, 150 pikes, 150 bills and 50 handguns on board as well as personal hand-weapons such as swords and daggers. This was a period of transition in warfare at sea, with a growing dependence on gunpowder weapons. Gradually longbows were replaced by handguns, however as Sir Roger Ascham's 1545 book on archery pointed out that handguns were slow to reload and gunpowder spoiled easily.

The English/Welsh longbow, sometimes called a warbow, was used to devastating effect in many English battles including the battles of Crecy and Agincourt. Compared to a modern Olympic bow which has a draw weight of 48 lbs, it was much more powerful with draw weights estimated to be between 80 to 180 lbs. There were only two surviving examples of Tudor longbows until the *Mary Rose* was recovered. Longbows were made from one piece of Yew wood which was then carefully carved into a deadly weapon.

Unusual fact: Tudor longbows were up to 4 times as powerful as our modern Olympic bows. The tension experienced over a life of drawing the bowstring caused the bones in an archer's forearm to transform over time. Can you see the difference between the two bones? One is shorter and thicker at the end.

In the gallery: Imagine you are a Tudor archer aboard the Mary Rose. Draw yourself as you prepare for battle. Include clothes, quiver and of course your bow!

Back at class: Long bows were a great way of targeting your enemies from a distance, but could you make art from a distance. Try creating/using objects that can throw or fling paint at a canvas from a distance. You could make a painting altogether out of splats, or make one on black paper that could look like the universe.



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Theme 4: New discoveries

The Crystal Skull is actually made from a transparent plastic material that has been 3-D printed and is an exact copy of the skull of the Captain of The Archers' skull. Making exact copies of archaeologically important bones allows scientists to study the shape of the bones without handling them. Over time, repeated handling of delicate artefacts like bones, could cause permanent damage preventing future generations from studying them.

Unusual fact: Whilst any sailors came from Wales and the West Country The Mary Rose was a much more international ship than once imagined.

Over the years, new scientific analysis has added to what we can tell about the objects and people on board. Thanks to isotope and DNA analysis of a sample of human remains on board we now know that some of the hundreds-strong crew came from Spain, Italy and North Africa. This matches what we know about some of the objects they used. The Mary Rose is a much more international ship than once imagined.

In the gallery: See if you can draw the crystal skull. It is quite difficult because it is see-through. Can you make your drawings look like glass. Drawing Tip: Remember not to put the eyes too high up the face—you need to give him room for a brain!

Back at class: Can you create a sculpture of your head? You could use clay or plastercine. Remember to have a good look at what makes you, you! Also you have to be able to sculpt in 3D so how are you going to see the back of your head? With clay it is really useful to create different textures



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The Big Drawing Page

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