

## **KS2 History – Tudor Exploration** **Understanding Tudor exploration during the reign of** **Queen Elizabeth I**

This lesson will highlight to children reasons why people wanted to explore the world in the past. They will compare old and modern world maps. They will use their knowledge of Elizabeth I to examine the reasons why she supported Tudor exploration. They will also imagine what Elizabeth I might have thought and said on the matter of Tudor exploration.

### **Learning Objectives:**

To understand reasons why people explore the world – past and present

To know how maps changed over time

To recognise reasons why Tudor exploration occurred during the reign of Elizabeth I

### **Success Criteria:**

Children should be able to:

Explain why people from the past wanted to explore the world

Describe the differences in maps from different times

Discuss the reasons why Elizabeth I encouraged England's exploration of the world

### **KS2 National Curriculum Links:**

**History** – 2c: to identify and describe reasons for, and results of, historical events, situations, and changes in the periods studied, 2d: to describe and make links between the main events, situations and changes within and across the different periods and societies studied, 5a: recall, select and organise historical information, 8a: learn about the Romans, Anglo-Saxons and Vikings; Britain and the wider world in Tudor times; and either Victorian Britain or Britain since 1930.

**Geography** - 2c: to use atlases and globes, and maps and plans at a range of scales [for example, using contents, keys, grids]

### **Resources:**

Powerpoint

Worksheets

Atlases

## **Introduction:**

Ask the children to imagine they are explorers. Ask them to think about all the places they would like to go to, and why. Looking at images of different forms of transport, get them to discuss all the reasons why people want to explore the world today. Explain to the children that a lot of the same reasons existed 400 years ago.

Ask the children to look at pictures of Elizabeth I, the last Tudor monarch, who ruled England between 1558 and 1603. Explain to the children that, during her reign, Europe's knowledge of the world increased.

### **Teacher led activity:**

Ask the children to examine copies of world maps at the start and end of Elizabeth I's reign. Ask them to list what they notice. Help the children to see the differences between the maps by letting them compare the maps to modern versions from their atlases.

Explain to the children that sailors like Sir Francis Drake and Sir Walter Raleigh explored parts of the world during Elizabeth's reign, helping to improve the accuracy of maps of the world at the time. Also, explain to the children that it was the way Elizabeth I thought, and the manner in which she ruled England, that helped to make Tudor exploration possible.

## **Development:**

### **Paired Activity:**

Hand out to the children historical facts about Elizabeth I. Ask the children to look at the facts one at a time and decide whether the fact would be classed as a personal or political reason for Elizabeth I choosing to support exploration of the world. Ask them to sort them into two groups. Help the children with the exercise by going through some examples together. For example, *Elizabeth enjoyed receiving jewels and silver from sailors because it made her richer* would be a personal reason whereas; *she wanted England to be a world economic power and to restore English pride* would be a political reason. Are there some facts that go in both groups?

### **Independent Activity:**

Give the children two pictures of Elizabeth I; one on her own with thought bubbles, and one of her addressing a crowd of people with speech bubbles. Ask the children to annotate the pictures using their knowledge from their paired work. For example, they might write: 'My father would be proud of me' or 'We need to protect England from our enemies by having good maps!'

## **Differentiation:**

G&T – Ask the children to look at additional resources on Elizabeth I and investigate further reasons why she made Tudor exploration possible.

SEN – Ask the children to watch a cartoon clip of Elizabeth I talking to Drake and Rayleigh from the National Maritime Museum's website:

<http://www.nmm.ac.uk/TudorExploration/NMMFLASH/index.htm>

Then, using a picture of Elizabeth with Drake, ask the children to add sentences to it with things she might have said to him before he set sail to circumnavigate the world.

### **Plenary:**

Ask the children to play 'This is Your Life'. Ask one child to be Elizabeth I and one to be the presenter. Explain to the rest of the children that they need to honour Elizabeth I for helping Tudor exploration of the world. In pairs, or groups, they prepare short sketches to perform in front of her highlighting how she helped Tudor exploration. (Ask the children playing Elizabeth I and the presenter to respond).

### **Homework/ Extension:**

Ask the children to plot on world maps all the places they would like to go. Ask them to describe why they would want to go there. What would they be able to learn? What might they say to Elizabeth I to get her to fund a voyage to a place?

### **Possible Follow-Up Lesson:**

Ask the children to explore the voyages of Drake or Rayleigh. Can they trace on maps where the men went?

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