Women’s History Month - Assembly Ideas

- Show the children the Powerpoint display: ‘Why Teach Women’s History’.

- Hold up some history books in front of the children to demonstrate how men have been recorded in history compared to women. Ask the children to think of reasons why there are a lot more men than women in history books. Ask them to think about how women from history could be rediscovered?

- Pick a famous woman from history (e.g. Florence Nightingale, Rosa Parks, Emmeline Pankhurst, Boudicca etc.). Show the children a Powerpoint display about the woman’s life and achievements. Explain to the children that they will get the chance to research more famous women in their history lessons.

- Hold up a set of pictures of famous women in front of the children. Invite one child from each class to choose a picture. Tell the children it is up to them to find out all they can about each woman and then design a dinner plate setting for her, in the style of American artist Judy Chicago’s The Dinner Party.

- Introduce the game ‘I am the most important woman in history.’ Ask two children to stand at the front of the school – each playing a different historical woman. Each child lists reasons why they are more important than the other. Ask the rest of the children to vote for who they think argued the best case. Then explain to the children that each class has to argue the case for a different woman from history in a future assembly (linked to their history topic if possible). At the end of the month ask the children to vote for the most ‘important’ woman using a secret ballot (ask them not to vote for their own class).

- Play ‘Who Am I?’ During the month, gradually show pupils examples of primary or secondary historical sources about one woman or a group of women. Ask the children to talk about what each source tells them. By the end of the month, the children should be able to guess who the woman is (or women are) from the evidence they have analysed together.

- Invite a female historian, or archaeologist, to talk to the children.