

Alder Coppice Primary School — Knowledge Organiser

HISTORY

Year: **6**

Unit 2: Who were the Windrush Generation?

Themes: Migration, Discrimination, Racism, Change & Continuity, Exploitation, Cause & Consequence, Interpretation, Enquiry

What I Should Already Know:

Children will have knowledge of:

- Treating people with respect no matter what differences people have
- Democracy and Rule of Law
- Equality – Including Racist issues and diversity
- Migration – types of migrants and reasons for migration, including difficulties some migrants may face
- Carrying out an Historical Enquiry
- Discussing Change & Continuity throughout History and how this has had an effect on the world today
- Discussing Significance & Interpretation of historical figures, facts and important events

Skills & Enquiry

- Pupils can make deductions from clues – using sources of evidence
- Pupils can carry out an Historical Enquiry using a range of sources e.g. photos, documents, videos.
- Analyse the reliability of historical sources
- Compare life past and present
- Understand how life in the past still affects life today
- Understand how discriminatory attitudes restricted the roles Black people could play
- Recognise some of the change and continuity of differing attitudes towards people of colour over the past few decades
- Pupils can make judgments about the relative significance of relevant events

Unit Specific Vocabulary:

Activism - the policy or action of using vigorous campaigning to bring about political or social change

Boycott – to give up or avoid something for social or political reasons

Citizen – a person who is a legal member of a country, state or empire with rights of citizen-ship

Discrimination – unfair treatment based on unreasonable ideas about a person or group

Empire – a group of countries that is ruled by one country, by a monarchy or by a gov-ernment

Migrant – a person who moves from one country to another

Plantation – a large estate or piece of land used for farming crops on a large scale, such as cotton, tea or sugar cane

Prejudice - preconceived opinion that is not based on reason or actual experience

Racism – a system of unfair treatment based on the false belief that some racial or ethnic groups are better or worse than others

Segregation – a system that forces people from different races to be separate from one another

Windrush Generation:

Windrush Day takes place on 22 June, remembering the day when around 500 migrants from the Caribbean arrived at Tilbury Docks in Essex in 1948.



Key Information:

Britain was just starting to recover from World War Two back then. Thousands of buildings had been bombed, lots of houses had been destroyed and it all needed to be rebuilt.

In the Caribbean, lots of young men and women had served in the British armed forces because at the time, many Caribbean countries were still under British rule and not yet independent.

After the war, some of these people answered an advert to come to Britain where there were lots of different jobs to do. Other people just wanted to see Britain, which they had heard so much about.

When the passengers landed they didn't always get the friendly welcome they had hoped for. Many of them experienced racism and discrimination and often found it hard to get proper home to live in and to make friends with British people.

It wasn't always easy for the new arrivals to get jobs. Some companies said they didn't want black people to work for them. Later, many of their children were bullied at school because of the colour of their skins. Some of them suffered racial attacks and in later years there were riots in cities across Britain.

It is more than 70 years since the Empire Windrush sailed to Britain from the Caribbean. An estimated 500,000 people now living in the UK who arrived between 1948 and 1971 from Caribbean countries have been called the Windrush generation. But, some of the people who arrived in the UK as children with their parents were later told - wrongly - that they live here illegally. Due to a change in immigration laws, some of them now faced deportation.

In 2018, the government apologised for this scandal and they also announced that a day celebrating the contribution of the Windrush generation and their descendants - Windrush Day - would be held annually on 22 June.

How has life improved for Black people over the last 60 years in Britain?



By 1961 only 21% of the government agreed that more immigrants should be allowed to come to Britain, without controls.	In 1962 an Act of Parliament controlled the number of Black People coming to Britain – the government gives out fewer vouchers for jobs, which are mostly done by Black people.	1963 – the Bristol Bus Boycott calls attention to the local bus company's refusal to hire Black or Asian workers. The Boycott forces the company to change the rules.
1965 A law makes it illegal to discriminate in housing, jobs and banking or in public places like hotels or cinemas.	1968 – Conservative politician Enoch Powell makes a famous speech warning of disaster if Black and Asian people keep coming to Britain. Public support for Powell, and rising racist attacks, make Black and Asian people feel much less safe.	1981 London's Metropolitan Police begin an operation against street crime in Brixton, home to a large Black community. They use the hated sus laws (sus was short for suspect) to stop and search anyone they suspect might be going to commit a crime. In response, riots took place by young Black people in Brixton and major cities.
In 1981 A house fire kills thirteen young Black people at a birthday party in South London. Their families suggest it is a racist attack, but the police refuse to investigate properly. Thousands of people march in protest.	1983 Stephen Lawrence, a Black teenager is killed by a gang of white men. An official enquiry finds later that the police did not investigate the murder properly because of institutional racism.	By 1979 there was very high unemployment and Black people were accused of placing a strain on the system e.g jobs, school, health care.
In the 1970s white teenagers started to get into Reggae music. This helped them to grasp the links with slavery, the links with Africa (Rastafarians) and they began to challenge racism.	After the riots of 1981, a report said that schools should help white people to understand Black people's history, background and culture. Black people should also be helped to find jobs and stop racism in the police service.	2012 In the opening ceremony of the London Olympic games the arrival of the Windrush is celebrated alongside other great moments in British history such as the birth of the NHS.