

Windrush

Legends & Legacy



Windrush Legends & Legacy celebrates local stories of members of the Windrush Generation and their descendants in Haringey. They are stories of commitment and contribution to democracy, education, business, culture and general life in the borough, often with far greater significance beyond.



Bruce Castle Education Pack

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About the Education Pack

This resource pack has been created to support teachers in telling the story of the Empire Windrush and the Windrush Generation. The pack includes information on the Windrush, an exhibition held at Bruce Castle in 2019 and activities, resources, and links to online videos to help create engaging sessions for your class.

This pack is suitable for KS2 and KS3 pupils

National Curriculum Links

- *KS2 – KS3 History: Understanding historical concepts such as continuity and change, cause and consequence, similarity, difference, and significance.*
- *KS2 History: a study of an aspect or theme in British history that extends pupils' chronological knowledge beyond 1066*
- *KS2 English/Literacy: Taking part in discussion in order to learn; ability to elaborate and clearly explain their understanding and ideas. Using records and analysing both written and spoken word.*
- *KS3 History: Challenges for Britain, Europe, and the wider world 1901 to the present day, social changes in post-war Britain; a study of an aspect of social history, such as the impact through time of the migration of people to, from and within the British Isles*
- *KS3 Citizenship: The precious liberties enjoyed by the citizens of the United Kingdom*

Please note teachers should view and select the resources to ensure suitability for their children and to ensure it is appropriate for the Key Stage. Video links will take you to videos hosted on external platforms such as YouTube and Vimeo and children should be supervised whilst viewing resources online.

Introduction

HMT Empire Windrush docked at Tilbury in Essex on 21 June 1948. The following day, 492 British subjects from the Caribbean were among the 1027 passengers who alighted to start new lives in Britain.

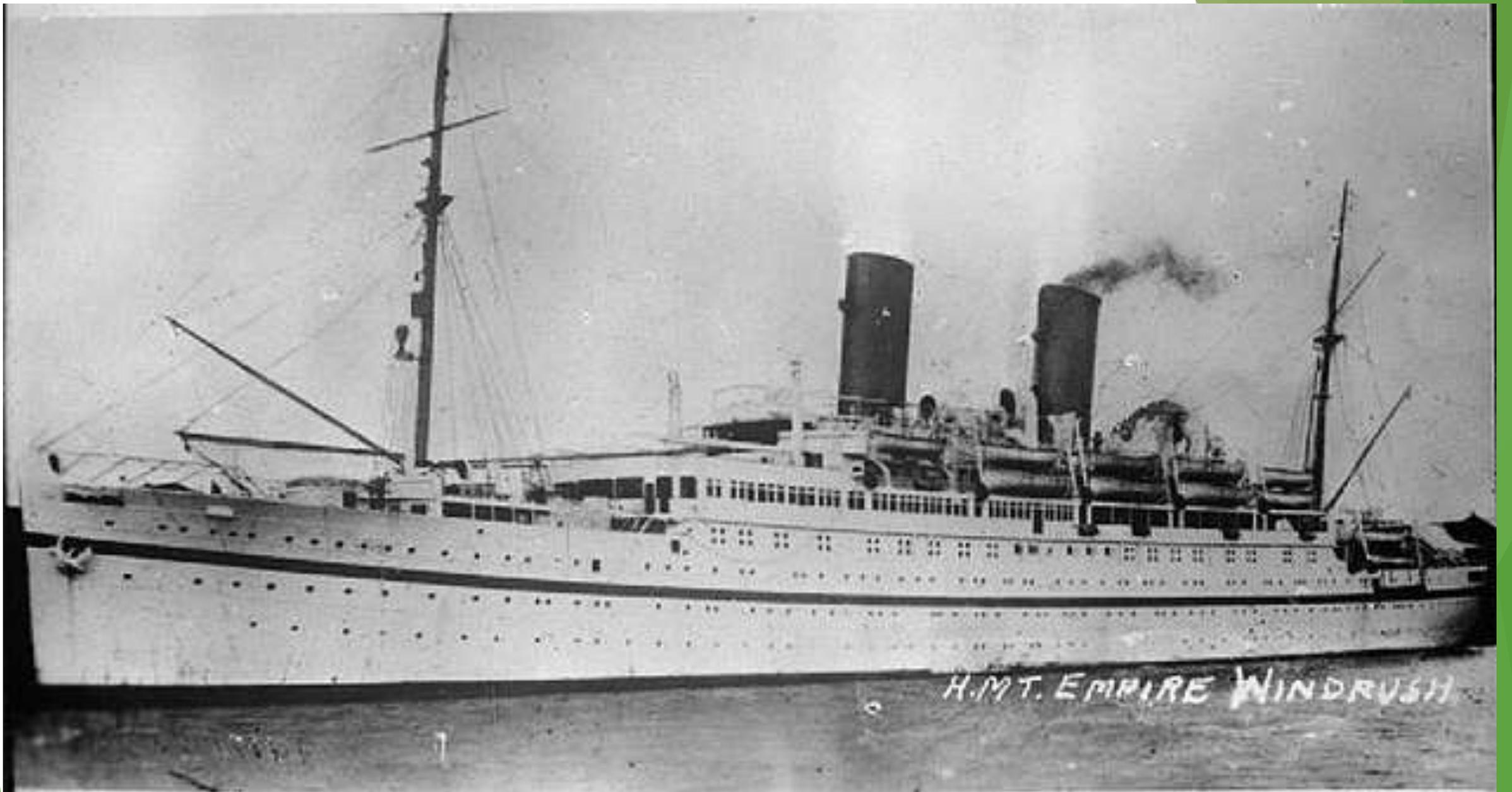
In 1948 Britain was rebuilding after the end of the Second World War and many men and women from the Caribbean had served in the British armed forces. The British government offered employment and the chance to live in the UK to many Caribbean countries who were still under British rule.

HMS Empire Windrush was travelling from Australia to England via the Atlantic and docked in Kingston, Jamaica, to pick up service men and women who were on leave. It was far from full, and an advertisement was placed in Jamaican newspaper. **'The Daily Gleaner', offering cheap transport to those wanting work in the UK.**

With the promise of prosperity and employment, the Windrush passengers brought with them to the UK a wide range of trades and skills.

In 1948, the British Nationality Act granted the status of British Subject to citizens of the UK and the Commonwealth.

The 'Windrush Generation' referred to today are the people who emigrated from the Caribbean to Britain between the arrival of the Empire Windrush in 1948 and the passing of the 1971 Immigration Act, which ended large scale immigration from the Commonwealth.



Where did the passengers travel from...

The Empire Windrush arrived in the UK in June 1948.

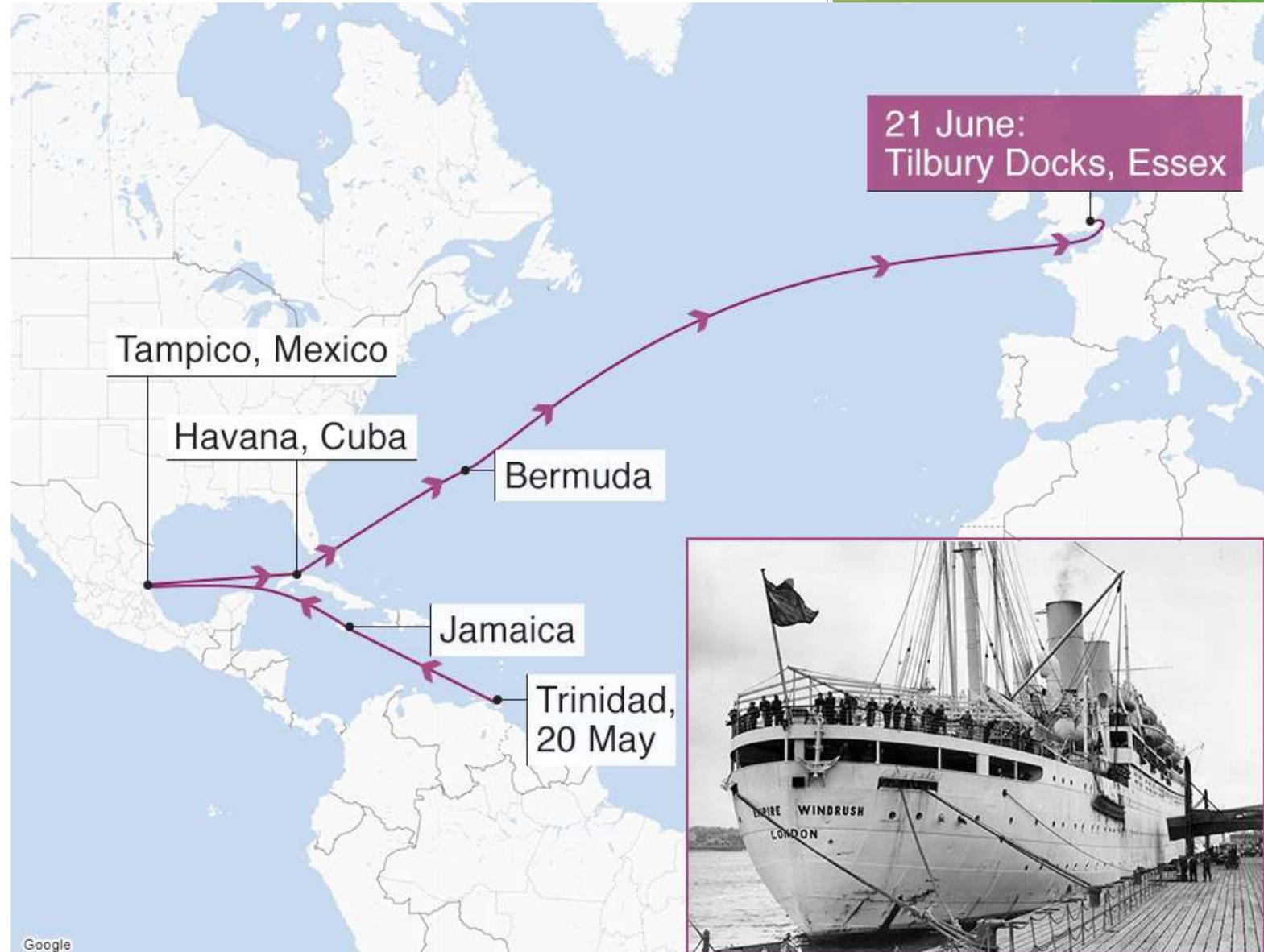
The ship left on 20 May 1948 and arrived in the UK on 21 June 1948. The passengers left the ship the next day on 22 June. It took a month to make the journey.

Task: Discuss what it might have been like to travel onboard the ship?

Was anyone in your class born in another country, or has family members who have moved to the UK?

How did they travel to the UK?

You could show the video on the SS Empire Windrush arrival in the UK (2.49 minutes)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9F6lsLRdZ-o&t=46s>
(This file can also be found on the Video Resources page)



Source: BBC

Who travelled to the UK...?

There were 1027 passengers on board the Empire Windrush, 492 who were British subjects from the Caribbean (and 2 stowaways). The large majority of the passengers were male.

Johnson	Samuel	Kingston	Tilbury		Male	Not accompanied by wife	30	1918	[Stowaway]
Wauchape	Evelyn	Kingston	Tilbury		Female	Not accompanied by husband	39	1909	[Stowaway]



Task: Imagine you are moving to a new country, what things would you take with you on a long trip? How would you feel?

You could use the activity sheet – A Long Journey (Suitcase activity) on Page 21 to plan what you will pack for your journey.

Why they came to the UK...

Many of the people on board the Empire Windrush came to the UK for work. After the Second World War the British Government had offered work to help fill the labour shortages. There was a particular need for workers in the newly formed National Health Service (NHS).

The occupations of the passengers showcased a varied range of skills that people were bringing to the UK. The most common job was a Household Domestic (a housewife or cleaner) listed by 172 people.

The table below shows the top 8 jobs listed by the passengers.

Job Listed	Number Listed
Household Domestic	172
Mechanic	85
Student	64
Carpenter	54
Clerk	39
Tailor	34
Engineer	23
Welder	23

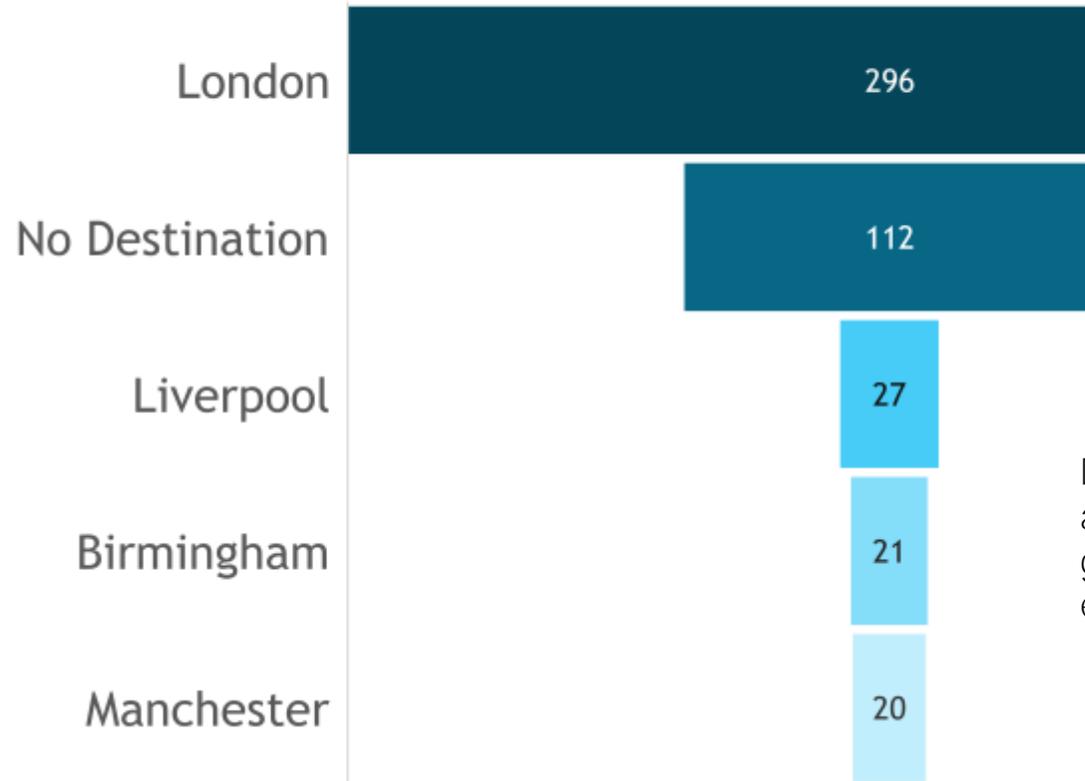
Task: There were lots of other jobs listed. Can the class think of other jobs the passengers may have listed?

You can view all the jobs by searching the passenger list on **Goldsmith's University**
<https://www.gold.ac.uk/windrush/passenger-list/>

Where did the passengers go in the UK...

London was the most popular destination with 296 passengers recording this as their new address. The graph below shows the top 5 places that were listed.

Future Residence



Task: Why do you think that a large number of passengers wanted to stay in London?

Most of the passengers had come to work in the UK and the capital city London would have seemed like a good option for finding work. Many got jobs with the emerging NHS and London Transport.

You can explore some of the other destinations listed by searching the passenger list at Goldsmith's University through the link below <https://www.gold.ac.uk/windrush/passenger-list/>

Windrush Day

In June 2018 the British Government introduced Windrush Day on the 70th anniversary of the HMS Empire Windrush arriving in the UK. Each year Windrush Day will take place on 22nd June to celebrate the contribution of the Windrush Generation and their descendants.

Since 2018 Windrush Day has been celebrated all over the country with events, exhibitions, talks and performances. Why not try finding out more about Windrush Day and events locally or online.

www.haringey.gov.uk/windrush has all the listings for Haringey.



The image shows an event at Bruce Castle held in 2019. Copyright Bruce Castle Museum and Archive

Windrush Legends and Legacy Exhibition 2019

An exhibition held at Bruce Castle Museum in 2019, tells the stories of the commitment and contribution to democracy, education, business, culture and **general life of Haringey's black community. Inspired by stories from the Bruce Castle Museum and Archive collections, follow the timeline celebrating the presence, the significant contribution and the lasting impact by Haringey's Windrush Generation and their descendants in the community from 1945 – 2008.**

Explore the Legends and Legacy Exhibition. You can download the [panels here](#)
Can you discover more about some of the people from the Windrush Generation who lived and worked in Haringey?

See if you can find the answers to the following questions in the exhibition?

1. Who visited Oliver Tambo at his home in Muswell Hill?
2. What year did New Beacon Books open in Stroud Green?
3. **What was the name of the man who became Haringey's first black councillor in 1968?**
4. In what year was Bernie Grant elected a councillor for Bruce Grove Ward?



Windrush Legends & Legacy Exhibition 2019

Explore the response to the exhibition by Alex Pascall OBE. Alex is a renowned broadcaster and campaigner who arrived from Grenada in the 1950s and has been living in Haringey ever since.

- How did Alex feel about coming to the UK?
- How did Alex describe the UK?
- What is the message of Alex's poem?

Windrush Generation Art & Celebration By Alex Pascall OBE

Generations, who journeyed to Britain from the Caribbean, arrived by invitation. The majority came on one-way tickets carrying British Passports. "We came to work and study, hoping to return within 5 years" (smile). Few came to stay but did so for uncharted reasons. There were opportunities, but not what were expected. We arrived, subjected to a hostile climate of racial in consequence and inequality of opportunities. Journeys to Britain started since World War One, with West Indian servicemen and women as Commonwealth Citizens, skilled and semi-skilled, educated and knowledgeable, single, married, religious and innovative, healthy and dedicated, geared to work, with hope to aspire to chosen fields.

Willing to play the game, ready to give and receive. The majority came from the island Jamaica, northern Caribbean, a sizeable distance away from others in the southern and eastern Caribbean countries, an archipelago of tropical countries, homelands in the Caribbean Basin. While the Caribbean Leaders were discussing fiscal arrangements to federate, Britain's economy was shattered needing support to rebuild.

As we come together in celebration of the generations who led laying foundations, let us honour their efforts as their stories unfold. Applaud them for gallantry, self-discipline and resolve, sacrifices made, particularly for the fulfilment of their aspirations. There are still other historical chronicles of life-experiences waiting to be found. Find them and then add to the wealth of stories gathered to enrich this reservoir of amazing accounts. For sure, today's modernized Britain is certainly not the Britain they met, but one that their efforts reconstructed.

To begin, I personally did not want to come to Britain, I always wanted to go to the USA because all my relatives who travelled went there. I arrived in Dover after 12 days of travel, carrying two conga drums and my grip (suitcase) filled with goodies, dressed up in my nylon shirt and bespoke suit, knitted socks and tie - that was October 1959. I was young, handsome, fearless and adventurous. 'The streets are paved with gold', the story told (smile). All that were cobbled stones; Britain (London) was foggy, grey, smelly, damp and dull, colours worn were mostly black, white and what wen off - discoloured. Quite the opposite to the tropical gear from whence we came.

Man, in no time we spiced up the place with tropical delight, our presence chased the fog and warmed the icy climate. Best of all, we created this unique carnival festival bringing together everyone on the narrow street of the Boroughs of Westminster, Kensington & Chelsea to play mas and revel: 'Black, White and Indifferent' joined in to celebrate cultural togetherness. England, how about that for multiculturalism and racial harmony? Forget about your CRC [Civil Rights Commission] and CRE [Commission for Racial Equality], this is We Ting, the spectacle for all races, nothing like Britain's wishful racial equality.

Can you imagine the ways we used to dress up, the way we used to walk, talk and joke, partied, cooked, danced and went to church, the places we worked? Then as the years went into decades, our contributions faded into the clime of the four seasons and rallied to the pace and tempo of Britain's off-the-peg clothing, in tune with Britain's forms of English language. Strange terms like 'bloke', 'ta' for thanks, 'tata' for goodbye, the delicacies of bland England. Time to remind you about we susu/partner, our own innovative way we gathered money to buy houses that needed serious repairs, while we struggled with the authorities to educate generations of our children.

When it comes to sports, check it out. We played the game of cricket, shifting fortunes and glorious uncertainties, English clapping West Indians shouting, cricket was we game, England versus The West Indies was warfare. Slowly but surely we began to beat hell out of dem; blows in their clothes, Roberts, then Michael Holden, Walsh and Curtly Ambrose, fast bowlers with paste, expert batting and fielding, fire in their wire. Viv, Sobers, Kanhi, Kallicharran, Nurse, Marshall, Captains Worrell and Lloyd, dem man striking fours, sixes and centuries. Fast, medium and spin bowlers with speed and grace, like human rockets with rock stones, batsmen blading balls to the boundary, runs like dry peas. The Oval and Lords brought to life; from English clapping and feet stamping, to we sideline commentary and banter, reveling to the music of the calypso, steel band, conch shells and percussion; Jamaican blue beat/ska and reggae music, eating we curry goat, rice and peas, drinking we ginger beer and mauby, making we-self happy.

Art in all, we have all-together created things to be proud of, moments and events to be celebrated for the efforts made and achievements gained. Forget about being referred to as 'illegal immigrants' and 'low hanging fruits'; those are statements representative of the deep-seated prejudices, words voiced by those who would love us to be at the bottom of the Thames, wanting one to believe that we are subordinates, not recognizing their emptiness and ignorance, walk tall.

Defy them and rise, laugh and surprise them. Chart your aspirations beyond their heights, aim for the zenith of all possibilities. Stay on route; take with you model examples from the thousands of historical visionaries. Clock the way we developed, resisting pitfalls and spiked alleyways that lead to nowhere.

Be proud, ambitious, watchful and defiant.
Best of all, aspire to be someone great,
Be the number one to be desired and admired.
Leave traces of your footsteps for those in pursuit to follow.
Now, mek I tell you something for nothing,
Pull up your socks and trousers and wear a smile,
Lift up all you head cut the slack and walk tall,
Cha man! Time for we walk, 'nough' time to reason.
Lace up you boots young man, nough ah dat lip flapping.
Walk tall! Let dem see you walk, straighten up your back.
Yes, show them how we walk and talk, measure time and walk,
Come gal, come dudu darling, leh we walk and talk.
Liven up yourself, buck up and enjoy the experience.
Granny sey, if crab nah walk, crab nah get fat,
Mek time, tek time; after one time is two time,
Shine! Mek time, step in line, to the Windrush Generation walk
Left, right, left, right, now walk and talk, rap and talk,
Ready, steady, rock woman rock, rock your body, now steady;
Do the walk and talk, Windrush Generation walk and talk.
'Walk good!'

© Good Vibes Records & Music Ltd.

Video Resources - 1

There are lots of videos online about the voyage of the Empire Windrush, its historical background and the impact on people from the Caribbean and their new lives in Britain.

Below are some links and information on videos which will give useful information on the Windrush and the Windrush Generation.

Please note these links will open in other applications.

Videos on the Empire Windrush and the journey to the UK

The SS Empire Windrush (2.49 minutes)

This video provides a brief description of the arrival of the Empire Windrush and why the passengers travelled to the UK.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9F6lsLRdZ-o&t=46s>

Empire Windrush (2.00 minutes)

A brief description of the Empire Windrush, why people came to the UK and how they found life in the UK.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/av-embeds/43808007/vpid/p065w53b>

Arriving in the UK (2.29 minutes)

A description of the Empire Windrush, why people came to the UK and how they found life in the UK, including looking for work and living in the UK. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/av-embeds/43782241/vpid/p064k462>

Windrush Generation meets Newsround Generation (2.47 minutes)

A video showing the younger generation interviewing their grandparents about the Windrush.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/44517662>

Video Resources – 2

Suitable for KS2 and KS3

London Is the Place for Me – Lord Kitchener (2.43 minutes)

Lord Kitchener's (Alwyn Roberts) song on coming to London. Lord Kitchener was a well-known calypso singer from Trinidad and Tobago and he sung the first two stanzas of the song 'London is the Place for Me' on camera for reporters at Tilbury Docks (you can see this in the video SS Empire Windrush on the first Video Resources page). It was not until 1951 that Lord Kitchener recorded the song which you can listen to in full at the following link.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dGt21q1AjuI>

You can view the lyrics of the song [here](#)

Activity: Play the song to the class

You could ask the class...

- What is Lord Kitchener singing about?
- How does he describe London?
- How does the song make them feel?
- Do they think the song is positive or negative?

Activity: Can the class make their own song about the Windrush.



Video Resources – 2

Suitable for KS2 and KS3

Windrush Child – John Agard (3.53 minutes)

John Agard wrote the poem Windrush Child after meeting one of the youngest passengers aboard the Empire Windrush. You can watch John reading his poem here

<https://vimeo.com/34658318>

Activity: Listen to John reading his poem. You can find the words [here](#)

You could ask the class...

- What do you think the poem is about?
- How does it make you feel?
- What words would you use to describe the poem?
- How did John describe the journey?
- How many times does John mention the Windrush Child?

Activity: Using what you have learnt about the Windrush and John's poem as inspiration, try writing your own poem about the Windrush.

Creative Activities

Suitable for KS2

The following pages contain a number of make and do activities to print and complete with your class.

Make your own dominoes game

Dominoes is a tile based game played with gaming pieces, commonly known as dominoes. The earliest mention of dominoes is from the 13th Century in the Song Dynasty in China. Today various forms of the game are played all over the world. In the Caribbean Islands dominoes (or as it is known in some areas; bones or partner) is one of the most popular games.

Print out the game, cut out and have a go at playing in teams.

A Postcard Home – Write your own postcard to home.

Passengers on the Empire Windrush travelled a long way to get to the UK and left their home and their families behind them. When the Windrush Generation arrived, there were no mobile phones or email and not many people had a phone in their house or accommodation. How would you stay in touch with your family?

Print out the postcard activity. imagine you have made a long journey from home and write a postcard to someone at home or to someone who does not live near you. Think about where you are and how long it has been since you last saw them. What is the most important thing you want to tell them?

Althea McNish Printing Craft

Althea McNish was a textile designer from Trinidad. She came to the UK in the 1950s and went on to become a world-renowned textile designer. Her designs were featured in magazines including Vogue and were used to make fabrics for Liberty and Heal's. Althea's designs were often inspired by her Caribbean roots and featured bold and bright colours and patterns.

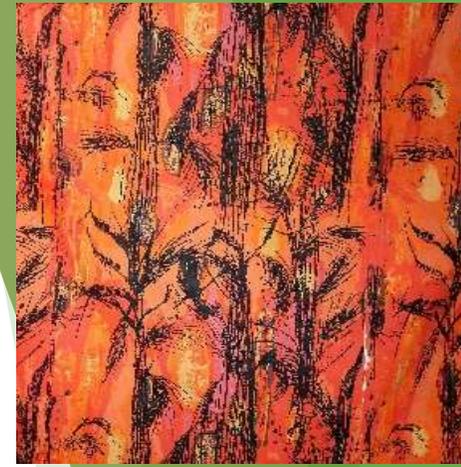
Use the activity sheet to create your own printed designs.

A Long Journey – Suitcase Activity

Imagine you are going on a long journey to a new place. What things would you take with you from home?

Windrush Quiz

After exploring the arrival of the Empire Windrush and the Windrush Generation see if you can complete the Windrush Quiz?

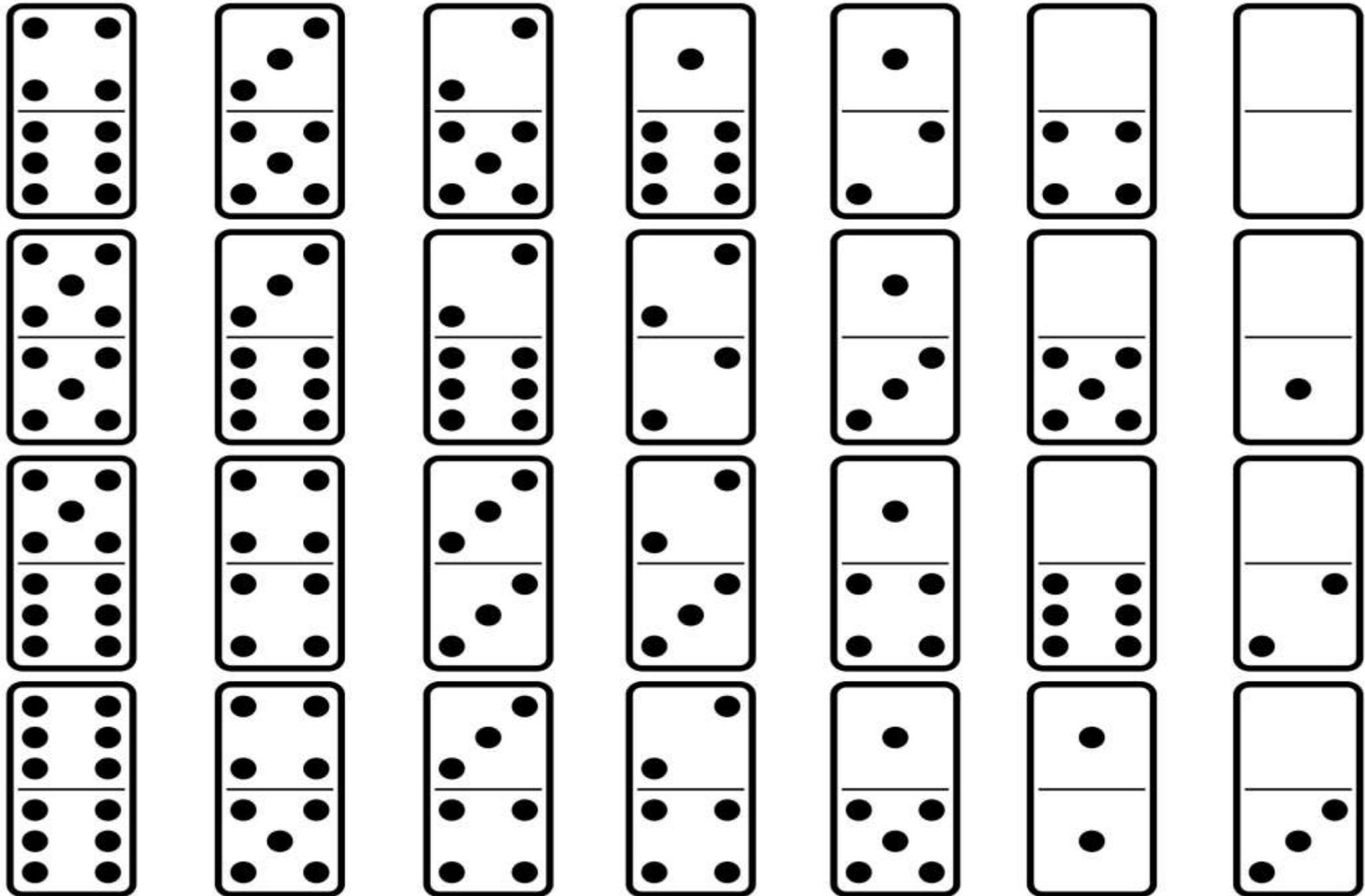


Golden Harvest by Althea McNish.
Copyright of Bruce Castle Museum.

Make your own Dominoes Game

Print the tiles onto card and carefully cut out – young children will need an adult to help with this.

Follow the instructions on the next page to play your game of dominoes.



Make your own Dominoes Game

How to Play Dominoes...

Play the game with 2-4 players in pairs. (It can be played with more but you will have to double up into teams).

1. Print the tiles from the previous page and cut them out
2. Place the tiles face down on the table
3. Each player draws 7 tiles to begin. Set the tiles up on their side facing you so your opponents can't see your tiles
4. Leave the remaining tiles to one side, face down
5. The player with the double six begins the game and play moves anticlockwise with each turn
6. The next player has to put down a tile that matches either of the numbers on the tile on the table
7. Tiles are placed short end to short end unless it's a double number
8. If a player cannot go they must skip a turn and pick up a tile
9. The team whose player lays all of their tiles first wins. If no team can play a tile, the team with the tiles with the least amount of dots wins the hand and scores 1 point
10. To win the game, you must win six times in a row to get a score of 6-0. If the other team wins a hand the score goes back to 0-0

Tip: (Blank tiles are just like blanks tiles in scrabble - they can be any number you want!)

Postcard to Home

In June 1948 the Empire Windrush arrived at Tilbury Docks, Essex carrying hundreds of people from the Caribbean. Some had been to Britain before whilst others came to the country for the first time.

Imagine you are one of the passengers arriving in Britain for the first time.

How would it have felt? What would have been different to home? What would you tell your family back at home?

Imagine you made the journey to Britain and write a postcard home to describe your experience.

A large white rectangular area with a red scalloped border, intended for writing a postcard. A vertical line divides the space into a larger left section for the message and a smaller right section for the address. In the top right corner of the right section, there is a square box with a scalloped border for a stamp. Below the address section, there are three horizontal lines for the recipient's name and address.



Fill in your postcard

Design a stamp for your postcard

Althea McNish – Printing Craft

Althea McNish was a textile designer from Trinidad. She came to the UK in the 1950s and went on to become a world renowned textile designer. Her designs were featured in magazines including Vogue and were used to make fabrics for Liberty and Heal's. Althea's designs were often inspired by her Caribbean roots and featured bold and bright colours and patterns.

Why not try creating your own printed designs. You can do this on paper or try it on fabric.

1

Choose your pattern or design. What shapes, patterns, images inspire you? You could do a repeating pattern or place your design randomly. Start by preparing your paper or fabric by placing it on a flat surface.

Tip: Start with a simple design, such as lines or circles and plan it out on paper first before you start printing.

2

Take your sponge or potato and cut it into the stamp size of your choice. Ask an adult to help you cut out your pattern or design to make your stamp.

Tip: You can draw your pattern in pencil first to follow the lines. Make sure an adult helps you when cutting.

3

Once you are happy with your design choose your paint colours and pour small amounts of paint onto a paper plate or palette. Carefully dip your stamp into the paint or use a paintbrush to apply your paint, making sure your stamp is evenly covered. Line up your stamp and carefully press it onto your fabric or paper applying light pressure.

Tip: Make sure you don't have too much paint on your stamp.

4

Continue to stamp your design onto your paper/fabric until you have completed your pattern or design. Once confident, try making other stamps with different shapes and patterns.

Tip: If you are using multiple stamps and colours use paper towels to wipe off any excess paint to avoid mixing colours.

You will need...

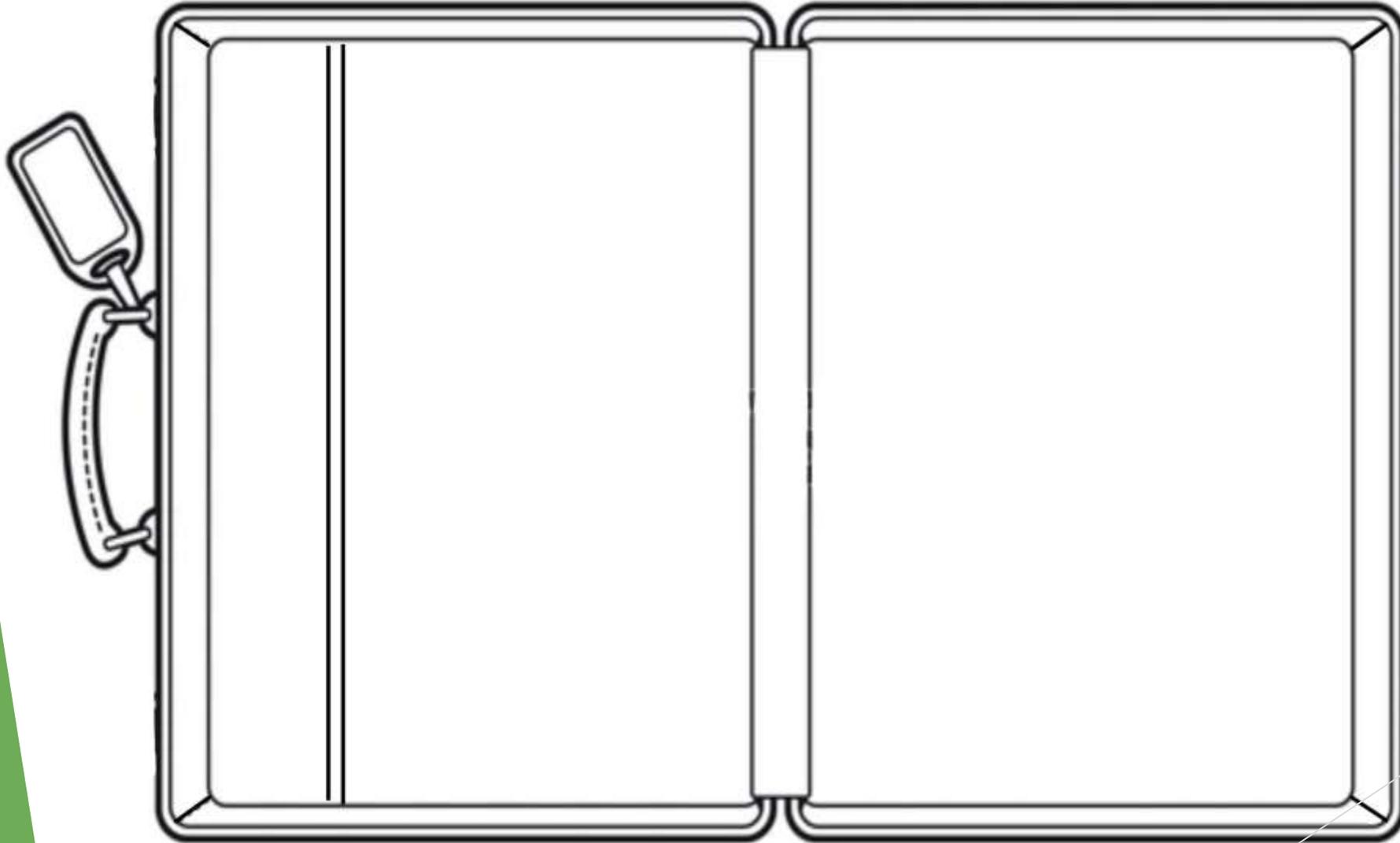
- Pencils
- Poster or fabric paints
- Paper or fabric
- Paintbrushes
- Paper plate or paint palette
- Sponges/stamps or potatoes
- Knife or scissors
- Apron

Caution: Adult assistance and supervision will be required when completing this craft!

Tip: If using fabric paint follow instructions on the bottle for how to use and wash fabric and protect clothes by wearing an apron.

A Long Journey - Pack a Suitcase

Imagine you're going on a long journey to a new place. What things would you take with you from home?



Draw some of the things you might take with you in the suitcase.

Windrush Quiz - Questions

See if you can answer all the questions in our Windrush Quiz?

1. Which year did the Empire Windrush arrive in Britain?
2. Where in Britain did the Empire Windrush dock?
3. Where had the Empire Windrush come from?
4. How long (in feet) was the Empire Windrush?
5. What date is National Windrush Day held each year?
6. Which world-renowned Haringey resident and textile designer was part of the Windrush Generation?
7. Which famous annual event was founded by members of the Windrush Generation?
8. Which member of the House of Lords travelled to the UK from the Caribbean as a young girl and **made her name in children's television?**
9. Why did people travel from their homes in the Caribbean to Britain?
10. How much did it cost to travel abroad the Empire Windrush?
11. Passengers onboard the Windrush were asked to provide their last country of residence. Which country was listed the most?
12. How many passengers were on board the Empire Windrush?

Windrush Quiz – Answers

1. Which year did the Empire Windrush arrive in Britain? **1948**
2. Where in Britain did the Empire Windrush dock? **Port of Tilbury, Essex**
3. Where had the Empire Windrush come from? **Jamaica**
4. How long (in feet) was the Empire Windrush? **500ft**
5. What date is National Windrush Day held each year? **22nd June**
6. Which renowned Haringey resident and textile designer was part of the Windrush Generation? **Althea McNish**
7. Which famous annual event was founded by members of the Windrush Generation? **Notting Hill Carnival**
8. Which member of the House of Lords travelled to the UK from the Caribbean as a young girl and **made her name in children's television?** **Floella Benjamin**
9. Why did people travel from their homes in the Caribbean to Britain? **For work – The British Government invited them to Britain after the end of the SWW to help address labour shortages**
10. How much did it cost to travel abroad the Empire Windrush? **£28 (about £1000 today)**
11. Passengers onboard the Windrush were asked to provide their last country of residence. Which country was listed the most? **Jamaica - 539 passengers listed Jamaica as their previous residence**
12. How many passengers were on board the Empire Windrush? **1,027**

Vocabulary List

- Citizenship: The state of being a member of a particular country and having right because of it. (Cambridge Dictionary)
- Commonwealth: An international association - such as the British Commonwealth consisting of the UK together with states that were previously part of the British Empire, and dependencies. (Oxford English Dictionary)
- Ethnicity: A particular race of people, or the fact of being from a particular race of people (Cambridge Dictionary)
- Generation: All of the people born and living at about the same time, regarded collectively. (Oxford English Dictionary)
- Integration: The action or process of successfully joining or mixing with a different group of people. (Cambridge Dictionary)
- Immigrant: A person who has come to a different country in order to live there permanently (Cambridge Dictionary)
- Immigration: The coming of people into a country in order to live and work there. (Collins Dictionary)
- Migrant: A person that travels to a different country or place, often in order to find work (Cambridge Dictionary)
- Mother Country: The country where you were born or that you feel is your original home (Cambridge Dictionary)
- Nation: a large body of people united by common descent, history, culture, or language, inhabiting a particular country or territory. (Oxford English Dictionary)
- Nationality: The official right to belong to a particular country (Cambridge Dictionary)
- Naturalisation: The act of making someone a legal citizen of a country that they were not born in (Cambridge Dictionary)
- Voyage: A long journey involving travel by sea or in space. (Oxford English Dictionary)
- Windrush and Windrush Generation: People who came to settle in the UK from the Caribbean countries between 1948 and 1971.