THE BLACK CURRICULUM

KS3 Learning Activities

Mary Prince
Lesson Objective

In this activity pack, feelings may arise. Please do take time out if you feel overwhelmed by the topic and discussions around it.

In this lesson pack, you will be given insight into the life and history of Mary Prince, a formerly enslaved woman born in the 18th century.

We hope you that once the teaching of this pack draws to a close, you gain some understanding about what it was like for enslaved people at this time, and the importance of commemorating the lives and history of formerly enslaved people.
Mary Prince was born to an enslaved family in Bermuda in 1788, and sold away from her family at the age of ten, enduring extreme hardship.

In 1828, she was brought from Antigua to England. Slavery was still legal in the British colonies, but not in Britain itself.

Once she was free from enslavement, Prince became the first woman to publish an enslavement narrative in England. Her biography was called: The History of Mary Prince, a West Indian Slave.

This was the first text of a Black woman biographically detailing her experience as an enslaved person. It had a huge impact when published.
Activities
Research Task!

1. Research into why the Union Jack is still on the Bermuda flag.

   A key figure during this time was a Quaker named Elizabeth Heyrick. Research about her to find out more about her involvement in the abolishment of slavery.

   Why were Quakers a major support in the abolishment of slavery?

   Another key figure during this time was Thomas Clarkson. What was his involvement in the abolition of slavery?

Once completed, write down your findings as this will help you for the next activity.
Writing Task!

With the research you have gathered in the previous task, and what you have learned about Mary Prince through this resource pack, write a short analysis about how you feel about Prince's life, and why her story is important to be commemorated (200-300 words).

There is no right or wrong! Be honest with expressing how you feel, and remember to use the research you found to help you!
Visit Mary Prince’s Plaque!

Address:
University of London
Senate House
Malet St
London
WC1E 7HU

Fun fact!
Mary Prince’s plaque is located in Bloomsbury, as she lived in a house near the site where the plaque is mounted on.
The plaque was unveiled by Diane Abbott in 2007!

To find out more, click this link