

We Die Like Brothers

Making Links

This is a history learning resource for the teaching of the First World War at KS3 (England) or Grades 7-9 (South Africa).

It supports the English National Curriculum for KS3 History - Challenges for Britain, Europe and the wider world 1901 to the present day - the First World War and the Peace Settlement. For pupils in Hampshire, it could also form part of a local history study.

It supports the South African National Curriculum Statement for Senior Grades 7-9 in Social Sciences 2.4.2, 2.4.3 and 2.4.4.

Activities within this pack could also form a stimulus for literacy, art and design.

Equipment:

Workbooks and writing materials.

Words highlighted in **green** can be found in the glossary at the back of the resource pack.

Making Links

The story of the Mendi brings together South African and British people, but the wreck has different prominence in each country. Explore this by contacting a school at the opposite end of the Atlantic Ocean, and work together to understand the perspective of the other nation. Further information on how to do this is included on the next page.

Learning outcomes

Pupils will explore the history of the Mendi from another perspective.

Pupils will develop a global understanding of the events and their significance.

Pupils will work together to answer questions, promoting unity and collaboration.

Homework/Extension activities

Why is it important that the ship is remembered? Discuss this as a class, and link it to the next activity, which explores the ship as a memorial.

SS MENDI

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Teachers:

For this activity you will need to contact an English Secondary school, if you are teaching in South Africa, or a South African one if you are teaching in England.

For Teachers in South Africa:

You can find a list of English Secondary Schools via this website: <http://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/> (Remit will be 'School' and Provider will be 'Secondary') or here: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_schools_in_England Address your correspondence to the **Head of Department for KS3 History**

For Teachers in England:

You can find information on South African Schools here: <http://saschools.co.za/directory.php> or here http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_high_schools_in_South_Africa You will need to contact a secondary school, and address your correspondence to the **Head of Social Sciences for grades 7-9.**

Students:

English and South African schools need to work together for this activity. Through your teacher, contact a school in the other country. They might not be studying the Mendi, but they may help you to explore it by sharing their knowledge.

Develop a questionnaire about the Mendi, starting with:

Have you heard of the Mendi?

The rest of the questions are up to you but might include questions exploring survey participants' knowledge of the First World War or the roles of the labour corps. When your class has finished designing the questionnaire, collect results by asking the questions to friends and family, or with your teacher and parents' consent, to members of your community (for example in town or on the High Street).



Ask the school you are partnering with to do the same.

Students in England are not likely to identify many people that have heard of the Mendi. How many of the South African people participating in the survey have heard of the ship?

Use graphs to show the results of your questionnaire, and those of your chosen partner school.

Discuss as a class, and discuss with your partner school (for example using letters, email or Skype), why the results are different. Use your graphs and discussion to create a poster about what you have learnt.

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