

Carrie's War

During Summer I, the children explore fiction, non-fiction and poetry through the theme of World War II. They read and discuss *Carrie's War*, explore how the author uses historical details to place the book in time and debate the rights and wrongs of Carrie's actions. They research the Blitz and evacuation, writing an information poster for children. They investigate first-hand accounts of evacuation and European children's experiences and read parts of *The Diary of a Young Girl* by Anne Frank, plotting journeys on a map, and finally plan and write their own wartime stories.



Expected prior learning

- Can use research skills to investigate information.
- Can create a setting using the senses.
- Can write an explanation text with a clear flow of information.
- Can edit text passages.
- Can summarise the meaning of a book.



Overview of progression

- The children read and analyse *Carrie's War* by Nina Bawden. They explore the effect of the opening, the characters and the settings in the story and compare it with *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*.
- They research evacuation and the Blitz and create a formal poster of information for evacuees using the passive voice. They continue to practise using expanded noun phrases and relative clauses and modal verbs.
- They investigate the themes and debate whether Carrie had behaved badly.
- They research real-life experiences of evacuee children and explore war poetry, finally writing their own wartime stories.



Creative content

- The activities can be used to complement work in geography as the children use maps to investigate Europe during World War II; and in drama, with the children preparing a dramatised reading of war poetry.



Preparation

This chapter focuses on books centred around evacuees in World War II, *Carrie's War* by Nina Bawden and *The Diary of a Young Girl* by Anne Frank are the suggested texts, but could be replaced with other similar fiction of your choice.

You will also need:

Carrie's War by Nina Bawden; *The Diary of a Young Girl* by Anne Frank; a selection of war poetry; art materials; internet access; individual whiteboards; map of Europe or the world.

On the CD-ROM you will find:

Media resources 'Evacuation poster', 'Evacuees at the station', 'First-hand account', 'Map of occupied Europe', 'Meanwhile in London...'; interactive activities 'Modal verbs', 'Question tags'; photocopiable pages 'The Blitz – passage to be edited and improved', 'The Airman', 'An Irish Airman Foresees His Death', 'Refugee Blues', 'Naming of Parts', 'Extract from *Carrie's War*'