

West Indian Soldier: Interactive Timeline

NATIONAL
ARMY
MUSEUM

Teacher Notes



Members of the British West Indies Regiment, First World War.

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Purpose and scope

This interactive timeline is based on the National Army Museum's *West Indian Soldier* exhibition, curated in partnership with the West India Committee. The exhibition charts the history of Caribbean people in the British Army, and of the British Army in the Caribbean, from the period of British colonisation in the Americas to the present day. This timeline draws out key topics and sources from the exhibition as well as adding further relevant content for school learners, as based on the History curriculum and scope of the National Army Museum's collections. The interactive timeline is designed to be engaged with on various levels, whether for a chronological overview or for the study of a specific topic, theme or period. Within the timeline's stories, the level of engagement is determined by the user, with the option to read information segments, view objects and play videos, plus access further information through extended captions and links to articles on the National Army Museum website. The timeline can be used by students for both classroom or homework activities, and by teachers looking to further subject knowledge.

Curriculum links

KS3

History national curriculum links

Subjects:

- Slavery and abolition
- British Empire
- Seven Years War
- American War of Independence
- French Revolutionary wars
- First World War
- Second World War
- Post-war British society

Knowledge:

- *Know and understand the history of these islands as a coherent, chronological narrative...how people's lives have shaped this nation and how Britain has influenced and been influenced by the wider world*
- *Understand historical concepts such as continuity and change, cause and consequence*
- *Gain historical perspective by placing their growing knowledge into different contexts, understanding the connections between local, regional, national and international history; between cultural, economic, military, political, religious and social history; and between short- and long-term timescales.*

KS4

GCSE unit links

- *Edexcel* – Warfare and British society, c1250 – present, British America, 1713–83: empire and revolution, Migrants in Britain, c800–present
- *AQA* – Conflict and tension: the First World War, 1894 – 1918, Britain: Migration, empires and the people: c790 to the present day
- *OCR A* – Migration to Britain c.1000 to c.2010, War and British Society c.790 to c.2010, The Impact of Empire on Britain 1688–c.1730
- *OCR B* – Migrants to Britain, c.1250 to present, Britain in Peace and War, 1900–1918

Suggested uses

Contexts

- History lessons and homework (diversify teaching resources)
- Black History Month programming
- Tutor registration period
- Assemblies
- Displays

Focus

- Topics, e.g. Slavery
- Conflicts, e.g. Second World War
- Periods, e.g. 19th century
- Individual stories, e.g. Walter Tull
- Themes, e.g. Identity