

history zone - key stage 2

Welcome pupils to the zone and remind them of your name.

Aims:

In this zone we are going to travel back in time to discover how and why The Salvation Army began.

Introduction: Visit the Victorians (3-5 minutes)

The Salvation Army began in Victorian times, more than 150 years ago. Now, you may think you are experts on life in the Victorian times or you may think you know nothing at all. This game should tell me exactly how much you already know. So, here goes. I'm going to tell you a number of facts. For each fact that I say you can hold up either the 'F' card if you think the fact is false, or a 'T' card if you think the fact is true. So, let's see how much you really know.

If you had lived in Victorian times you would have been able to:

- Watch television (F)
- Buy a newspaper (T)
- Do a crossword puzzle (F)
- Play tennis (T)
- Drive a car (F – cars were invented in Victorian times but only rich people could afford them)
- Take a photograph (T)
- Sing 'God save the King' (F)
- Make a phone call (F – not until later - the telephone was only invented during Victorian times)
- Go to church (T)
- Go to school (T – only if you had enough money. At the beginning of the Victorian times many poor children had to work in mines and factories. They had no choice because their families were so poor. Later, a law was made to say all children had to go to school and shouldn't work.)

Life was very different when The Salvation Army began. Lots of things people use all the time today had not been invented, or were only just being invented. Now we know a little bit about what life was like back then it's time to find out about some people who lived during that time.

Choose from the following two activities:

1. Character bag activity (15 minutes)

In front of you are a number of bags which contain objects and clues. Each bag belongs to a different character who lived in Victorian times, and who has something to do with the beginnings of The Salvation Army. In a moment you're each going to take a character bag and explore the objects and clues inside. If you have a hat or something to wear you might want to put it on to help you identify with your character. For each of the objects in the bag think about these questions:

- What does this tell you about your character?
- What do you think it has to do with the story of how The Salvation Army began?

You can explore your character bags in pairs or groups of three. Ok, come and choose a bag.

There are 8 character bags. If your group has fewer than 8 pupils, some pupils could be given two smaller characters to explore. If there are more than 8 pupils, some pupils could explore one character together.

After about five minutes gather pupils back together and ask them what they have found out. You could ask each pupil to explain their objects and clues and read their diary excerpts, or have a more open discussion about what they have learnt. Encourage them to make connections between the characters (eg what does Catherine say about William? How are they related?).

At the end of this activity ask pupils to put their objects back in the bag ready for the next group. Try to make sure the correct objects go back in each bag!

or

2. 'That was your life' drama (10-15 minutes)

Drama is a great way to find out about important events in history, and so you're going to take part in a drama about how The Salvation Army began. The drama is based on an old TV show called 'This is your life', in which the presenter surprised famous people with the phrase '(name), this is your life!' The person would then be taken to a TV studio, where their family, friends and old acquaintances would be waiting. The show was all about the person's life and what they had achieved.

See Key Stage 2 drama script.

Give out the character cards, making sure that everyone is comfortable with the amount of reading their character has in the drama. Now give out the props and costumes which go with each character. Give pupils a minute to look at their character cards before you begin.

As well as reading your lines, every now and again I will ring a bell and ask you to come out of character and answer a question or two about the story. I will also look at you when it's time to read your lines, or to hold up the 'Clap' sign. *Depending on the facilities and space you have available, you may want to use the PowerPoint show which fits into the drama.*

DVD clip: William Booth's funeral (5 minutes)

The Salvation Army was founded by William Booth. By the time he died, in the year 1912, The Salvation Army had grown and had churches and was helping people in 58 countries. We're going to watch part of a real film of William Booth's funeral procession to realise just how much people respected him and what an impact he had made on the world. *Make sure everyone can see the screen and show the DVD clip (3 mins 44).* How many people do you think went to his funeral? (More than 35,000.) Why do you think there were so many people there?

The film said that William Booth had been 'promoted to Glory' which is a Salvation Army way of saying he had gone to heaven. He had served God well and given his whole life to helping others, especially the poor and destitute and unloved. Now he had been given a kind of promotion – a place in heaven to live with God.

Choose from the following plenaries:

Plenary: Back to back quiz (3-5 minutes)

To check what you have learnt about William Booth and the history of The Salvation Army, we're going to have a quick game called 'Back to back'. Two pupils will play at a time, standing back to back. I will ask a question, and the first pupil to turn around to the other player and say the answer wins the round.

Play this individually, where the winner of each round takes on the next player, ie 'last man standing', or in two teams if you have a larger group – a different player from each team plays each round.

1. True or false? William Booth was born in 1929 (False – 1829.)
2. True or false? All children went to school when William Booth was growing up. (False – lots of poorer children had to work in places like coal mines and factories.)
3. What was William Booth's first job? (He worked in a pawnbroker's shop – that's where he first saw real poverty.)

4. True or false? William became a Christian when he was a teenager. (True – he also made a special promise: ‘God shall have all there is of William Booth’.)
5. How did Booth feel about poor people?
6. Where did William and Catherine first meet? (At Catherine’s church when William was preaching there)
7. True or false? William and Catherine got married in 1855. (True)
8. True or False? Bramwell Booth started The Salvation Army. (False – it was his father, William, but Booth carried on his work)
9. What job did William Booth do after he was a pawnbroker, but before he started The Salvation Army. (Preacher)
10. True or false? The Salvation Army started in 1865 in London. (True – although it was called The Christian Mission at first until Booth changed its name in 1878.)
11. In 1887 William’s son Bramwell found a tram shed to use as a shelter. Who was the shelter for? (Homeless men.)
12. The Salvation Army made its own matches. What were they called? (‘Lights in Darkest England’)
13. True or false? William Booth died in the year 1905. (False – 1912)
14. The Salvation Army set up a scheme for hungry children. What was it called? (‘Farthing breakfasts’)

or

Plenary: Picture quiz (5 minutes)

Pupils work together to put the pictures in order to explain how The Salvation Army began. Ask them to explain which part of the story each picture represents.

extra activities

Picture trail (10/15 minutes)

You will need a set of the Resource Hub display boards for this activity (see resources list). Pupils complete the history picture trail, discussing questions and finding out information about the beginnings of The Salvation Army.

Making bonnets and caps (10-15 minutes)

Using ready-made cut-out shapes, a pencil and a stapler, pupils can construct their own Salvation Army bonnet or cap. (See instruction sheet.)

Pupil book (5 minutes)

Page 13 has a research activity with questions which pupils should be able to answer after completing the activities in this zone.

