

Northern Ireland War Memorial

StoryMaps for Junior Cycle History Curriculum

INTRODUCTION

These learning resources have been designed to highlight how the Northern Ireland War Memorial's *StoryMaps* can be used to address *Junior Cycle* history curriculum in fulfilling the learning objectives across three strands of study; *The Nature of History, The History of Ireland & The History of Europe and the wider world.*

These StoryMaps focus on 6 key themes;

- Smuggling
- Americans
- Blitz
- Evacuation
- Industry
- Victory

Use these StoryMaps to carry out the recommended activities individually or in groups both in class or as further learning at home. These activities have been designed to allow students the opportunity to develop key skills across 4 key areas; *Being Creative, Being Literate, Communication & Managing Information and thinking.*

CURRICULUM LINKS (TAKEN FROM JUNIOR CYCLE HISTORY SPECIFICATION)

Strand 1: The Nature of History

Developing Historical Consciousness

- 1.1 Develop a sense of historical empathy by viewing people, issues and events encountered in their study of the past in their historical context.
- 1.2 Consider contentious or controversial issues in history from more than one perspective and discuss the historical roots of a contentious or controversial issue or theme in the contemporary world.

Working with evidence

- 1.5 Investigate the job of the historian, including how s/he finds and uses evidence to form historical judgements which may be revised and reinterpreted in the light of new evidence.
- 1.6 Debate the usefulness and limitations of different types of primary and secondary sources of historical evidence, such as written, visual, aural, oral and tactile evidence; and appreciate the contribution of archaeology and new technology to historical enquiry.
- 1.7 Develop historical judgements based on evidence about personalities, issues and events in the past, showing awareness of historical significance.

- 1.8 Investigate a repository of historical evidence such as a museum, library, heritage centre, digital or other archive or exhibition.

Strand 2: The History of Ireland

Exploring people, culture and ideas

- 2.8 Describe the impact of war on the lives of Irish people, referring to either World War One or World War Two.

Applying Historical Thinking

- 2.11 Make connections between local, personal or family history and wider national and/or international personalities, issues and events.

Strand 3: The History of Europe and the wider world

Recognising Key Change

- 3.4 Discuss the general causes and course of World War One or World War Two and the immediate and long-term impact of the war on people and nations.

SMUGGLING

Access the Smuggling StoryMap by visiting: <https://arcg.is/1jmKPm1>

Activity:

Write a diary entry imagining your wartime trip to Dublin.

Use the smuggling StoryMap to listen to first-hand accounts of rationing and smuggling and its affect on people both North and South of the border.

- Did you bring anything to friends or family in Éire?
- Did you see the tourist sights, have dinner in a restaurant without coupons?
- Did you smuggle anything home – what did you bring and how did you hide it from the Customs Officers?
- How do you think you would have felt having ‘a break’ from the war?

Key Skills	Key Skill Elements
Being creative	• Imagining • Learning creatively
Being literate	• Develop my understanding of words and language • Writing for different purposes • Exploring and creating a variety of texts
Managing Information & Thinking	• Using digital technology to access, manage and share content • Thinking creatively and critically

Learning Outcomes:

- 1.1 Develop a sense of historical empathy by viewing people, issues and events encountered in their study of the past in their historical context.
- 1.8 Investigate a repository of historical evidence such as a museum, library, heritage centre, digital or other archive and exhibition.
- 2.8 Describe the impact of war on the lives of Irish people, referring to either World War One or World War Two.
- 3.4 Discuss the general causes and course of World War One and World War Two and the immediate and long-term impact of the war on people and nations.

VICTORY

Access the Victory StoryMap by visiting: <https://arcg.is/1SXinb0>

Activity:

Write and perform a dramatic monologue imagining how you celebrated Victory.

Use the Victory StoryMap and other StoryMaps to listen to the first hand experiences to gain an insight into what the Second World War was like for people and imagine how they would have felt celebrating Victory.

- Consider if they have loved ones overseas who would be finally returning home or had they been killed in actions?
- How did they celebrate, perhaps they went to Belfast City Hall or attended a street party, bonfire or stand down parade?
- How would you feel after nearly 6 years of war, worry and restrictions like rationing?

Key Skills	Key Skill Elements
Being creative	• Imagining • Learning creatively
Being literate	• Develop my understanding of words and language • Writing for different purposes • Exploring and creating a variety of texts
Managing Information & Thinking	• Using digital technology to access, manage and share content • Thinking creatively and critically
Communicating	• Performing and presenting • Listening and expressing myself

Learning Outcomes:

- 1.1 Develop a sense of historical empathy by viewing people, issues and events encountered in their study of the past in their historical context.
- 1.8 Investigate a repository of historical evidence such as a museum, library, heritage centre, digital or other archive and exhibition.
- 2.8 Describe the impact of war on the lives of Irish people, referring to either World War One or World War Two.
- 3.4 Discuss the general causes and course of World War One and World War Two and the immediate and long-term impact of the war on people and nations.

AMERICANS

Access the American StoryMap by visiting: <https://arcg.is/PCvDa1>

Activity:

Imagine you've been sent from America to write a magazine article for Stars & Stripes on the American presence in Northern Ireland.

Use the StoryMaps and listen to the first hand experiences to gain an insight into the American presence in Northern Ireland during the Second World War.

- How are 'our boys' getting on in Northern Ireland?
- How are they training?
- How have the local people welcomed them in or has there been any tensions?
- Remember you're trying to boost the morale of the hard-working Americans at home!

Key Skills	Key Skill Elements
Being creative	• Imagining • Learning creatively
Being literate	• Develop my understanding of words and language • Writing for different purposes • Exploring and creating a variety of texts
Managing Information & Thinking	• Using digital technology to access, manage and share content • Thinking creatively and critically

Learning Outcomes:

- 1.1 Develop a sense of historical empathy by viewing people, issues and events encountered in their study of the past in their historical context.
- 1.8 Investigate a repository of historical evidence such as a museum, library, heritage centre, digital or other archive and exhibition.
- 2.8 Describe the impact of war on the lives of Irish people, referring to either World War One or World War Two.
- 3.4 Discuss the general causes and course of World War One and World War Two and the immediate and long-term impact of the war on people and nations.

INDUSTRY

Access the Industry StoryMap by visiting: <https://arcg.is/1niG5P1>

Activity:

Work in pairs to discuss and debate wartime agriculture and industry of Northern Ireland – imagine one of you is a farmer and the other an industrialist.

Use the Industry StoryMap and listen to the first hand experience to gain an insight into how industry and agriculture was affected by the war.

- Consider how the war has affected industry or agriculture (for the worse or better).
- For farming you may want to consider the effect of labour shortages and tillage quotas.
- While for industry you should think about air raids and material shortages.
- Get your audience to decide which of you made the most convincing arguments for your cause – was industry or agriculture affected more by the Second World War?

Key Skills	Key Skill Elements
Being creative	• Imagining • Learning creatively
Being literate	• Develop my understanding of words and language • Writing for different purposes • Exploring and creating a variety of texts
Managing Information & Thinking	• Using digital technology to access, manage and share content • Thinking creatively and critically
Working with others	• Co-operating • Respecting difference
Communicating	• Performing and presenting • Listening and expressing myself • Discussing and debating

Learning Outcomes:

- 1.1 Develop a sense of historical empathy by viewing people, issues and events encountered in their study of the past in their historical context.
- 1.2 Consider contentious or controversial issues in history from more than one perspective and discuss the historical roots of a contentious or controversial issue or theme in the contemporary world.
- 1.8 Investigate a repository of historical evidence such as a museum, library, heritage centre, digital or other archive and exhibition.
- 2.8 Describe the impact of war on the lives of Irish people, referring to either World War One or World War Two.
- 3.4 Discuss the general causes and course of World War One and World War Two and the immediate and long-term impact of the war on people and nations.

BLITZ

Access the Blitz StoryMap by visiting: <https://arcg.is/1eCqge2>

Activity:

Write a newspaper article for the Belfast Telegraph detailing eyewitness experiences of the Belfast Blitz.

Use the Blitz StoryMap and listen to the first hand experiences to gain an insight into what it was like to be witness to an air raid during the Second World War.

- Consider what people in the city witnessed and experienced during the four raids on Belfast – where did they shelter?
- Were there any close calls?
- Consider how they felt – were they scared? Defiant? Angry?

Key Skills	Key Skill Elements
Being creative	• Imagining • Learning creatively
Being literate	• Develop my understanding of words and language • Writing for different purposes • Exploring and creating a variety of texts
Managing Information & Thinking	• Using digital technology to access, manage and share content • Thinking creatively and critically

Learning Outcomes:

- 1.1 Develop a sense of historical empathy by viewing people, issues and events encountered in their study of the past in their historical context.
- 1.8 Investigate a repository of historical evidence such as a museum, library, heritage centre, digital or other archive and exhibition.
- 2.8 Describe the impact of war on the lives of Irish people, referring to either World War One or World War Two.
- 3.4 Discuss the general causes and course of World War One and World War Two and the immediate and long-term impact of the war on people and nations.

EVACUATION

Access the Evacuation StoryMap by visiting: <https://arcg.is/18LiXG1>

Activity:

Write a letter home imagining the experience of an evacuee.

Use the Evacuation StoryMap and listen to the first hand experiences to gain an insight into what it was like to be evacuated during the Second World War.

- Consider why they have been evacuated?
- Did they witness the Belfast Blitz?
- Have they gone to strangers or family?
- What their new life in the safety of the countryside was like compared to their life in Belfast.

Key Skills	Key Skill Elements
Being creative	• Imagining • Learning creatively
Being literate	• Develop my understanding of words and language • Writing for different purposes • Exploring and creating a variety of texts
Managing Information & Thinking	• Using digital technology to access, manage and share content • Thinking creatively and critically

Learning Outcomes:

- 1.1 Develop a sense of historical empathy by viewing people, issues and events encountered in their study of the past in their historical context.
- 1.8 Investigate a repository of historical evidence such as a museum, library, heritage centre, digital or other archive and exhibition.
- 2.8 Describe the impact of war on the lives of Irish people, referring to either World War One or World War Two.
- 3.4 Discuss the general causes and course of World War One and World War Two and the immediate and long-term impact of the war on people and nations.