

## Solve the Mystery: The Polish Navy in Okehampton

### Lesson Plan

National Curriculum links & curriculum fit	<p>KS2 History: local history study; extending chronological knowledge beyond 1066 (for example 'a significant turning point in British history').</p> <p>KS3 History: local history study; 'challenges for Britain, Europe and the wider world: 1901 to the present day'.</p>
How to use	Fifth activity in the <b>Telling Our Stories</b> pack.
Aims	<p>Understand the story of the Polish Navy in Devon.</p> <p>Appreciate part of the contribution that the Poles made to WW2.</p> <p>Give a rounded view of the presence of Poles in the UK.</p>
Duration	1 hour
Materials required	<p>Packs of 45 cards: one pack per table / group of 4 to 6 students (<b>Resource 5b</b>)</p> <p>Answer sheet for card game (<b>Resource 5c</b>)</p> <p>Polish Powerpoint presentation (<b>Resource 5d</b>)</p>
Differentiation	You can take out / curate which cards appear in the card game to make it easier or harder.
Background reading & references for teachers	<p>Additional information about the Polish Naval camp:  <a href="http://www.tellingourstoriesdevon.org.uk/locations/okehampton/okehampton-polish-naval-warrants-officer-school-and-holding-camp">www.tellingourstoriesdevon.org.uk/locations/okehampton/okehampton-polish-naval-warrants-officer-school-and-holding-camp</a></p> <p>Oral histories with people whose fathers were in the camp (look for Peter Szytko ; Ann Zielonka ; Antoni Olszowski):  <a href="http://www.tellingourstoriesdevon.org.uk/locations/okehampton/okehampton-community-stories">www.tellingourstoriesdevon.org.uk/locations/okehampton/okehampton-community-stories</a></p> <p>Information on Polish airmen in Exeter:  <a href="http://www.tellingourstoriesexeter.org.uk/index.php?page=polish-nightfighter-squadron">www.tellingourstoriesexeter.org.uk/index.php?page=polish-nightfighter-squadron</a></p> <p>Oral histories with Polish residents of Exeter:  <a href="http://www.tellingourstoriesexeter.org.uk/index.php?page=bozenka-pierson-interview">www.tellingourstoriesexeter.org.uk/index.php?page=bozenka-pierson-interview</a>  <a href="http://www.tellingourstoriesexeter.org.uk/index.php?page=magda-from-poland-interview">www.tellingourstoriesexeter.org.uk/index.php?page=magda-from-poland-interview</a></p>

**Stage 1 (KS2 and KS3):****Solve the Mystery card game (20 - 30 mins)**

- Tell the class that today they have a mystery to solve.
- Open **Resource 5d** (Polish Navy Powerpoint presentation) and show them slide 1: 'Why did this Polish sailor marry and settle in Devon in the 1950s?'
- Tell the class:
  - You are history detectives, and you're going to work in groups to piece together the story.
  - You'll do that by playing a card game, in tables / groups of up to 6 students. Here are the steps.
  - Deal out all the cards; take it in turns to read a card and lay it on the table.
  - You must decide whether each card is relevant or not - some of the cards are there to confuse you!
  - Put the relevant cards in order so that they tell a clear story.
  - Set the students going on the task.
  - Go round and help the students as they build their version of the story.

**Stage 2 (KS2 and KS3): Telling the Story (10 mins)**

- Ask a group who've finished to tell the story.
- There is an answer sheet (**Resource 5c**), which gives the relevant facts in the right order - although the precise definition of a red herring is debatable!

**Stage 3 (KS2 and KS3): Powerpoint Presentation (15 mins)**

- Using **Resource 5d**, show the slides of Aleksander Szytko's story and explore the wider context.

**Note to teachers**

This is a complex story, one that is little known in Britain.

Ghee, author of the pack, is keen to get your feedback on how easy or difficult the activity is, and what could make it easier for students and teachers. You can fill in a **Feedback Form** (included in the pack) and / or email us to give us your feedback.