



## Lower KS2 Lesson Plan – Years 3&4

Title: Children During The War

### Lesson Objective

To use first hand evidence to understand the lives of children during the Great War.

### Overview

Many people forget that life still continued for children during the Great War. Although fathers, uncles, brothers and neighbours were going off to fight, children were still being raised at home, and still attending school. By looking at photographs and documents from the period, the class are asked to role-play what life might be like then.

### Lesson Starter

Ask the class to talk about the documents they have in front of them, concentrate on the images and ask class to thought shower ideas for what the child or children are thinking. Record ideas on wipe boards, IWB or flip chart.

### Main Lesson

Put the class into small groups of 3 to 4 children, each group chooses an image and the ideas from the starter, and ask the groups to come up with a Tableau, recreating their photograph. The children don't 'act out' a scene, rather work out what the child, or children, in the photograph might be thinking, and recreate the 'look' of the photograph, stepping forward to say out loud their characters thoughts.

NOTE: Children can use the costumes and caps in the resource boxes to help create the correct 'feel' for each character but this is an opportunity to create your own props, e.g. hockey sticks for rifles, PE kit for football strip, sheets wrapped around for large aprons

### Suggested Follow-on Activities:-

- Children's Diary – Ask the class to write a diary entry, maybe describing how things have changed.
- Use the tableau speeches as a starting point for creating a short play based around the photographs.

### Plenary

Discuss afterwards what each group created and why they thought this was the child's thoughts.