



Protecting the Tyne: Tyne Pilots and the River Tyne at War

Lesson Plan: Protecting the Tyne: The Tyne Pilots and the River Tyne at War Who were the Tyne Pilots?	
Teacher/s:	Date:
Subject: History/Geography	Year: Year 6
Learning Objectives: To know what were Tyne Pilots. To understand why they were important to safe shipping in the Tyne. Use a range of historical information including primary sources.	Success Criteria: The pupils will understand the historical and current significance of the Tyne Pilots.
Key Questions: What were the Tyne Pilots and why were they important to the safe working of the River Tyne?	
Starter Activity/Introduction Ask the pupils what a 'pilot' is. Explain that there are ways in which the term 'pilot' is used differently e.g. to guide ships safely along rivers.	Resources
Main Activity Simulation activity. The purpose of this activity is to show the importance of the pilot in guiding ships along the river. Take about 12 desks or chairs and place them opposite one another to recreate the winding course of a river. Ask for 3 volunteers to be 'ships' that will navigate along this 'river'. The volunteers are to be blindfolded. Ask for a further 5 volunteers that will hold 'Hazard cards' marked with obstacles – ROCKS, SHALLOW WATER, MUDBANK, SANDBANK, SUNKEN WRECK. The 'hazard card pupils will be arranged along the river and they have to be kept face down until or if, the ship hits them. The 'ships' in turn can attempt to find their way along the river unguided and blindfolded. If they bump into a Hazard, the pupil holding the card shows the class which obstacle it is, but DOES NOT SHOUT it out. Each hazard has a penalty of 1 point. At the end of journey, the 'ship' counts up the number of penalty points they have received. The course of the river is then altered for the two further 'ships' that follow. Now ask for three volunteers to become trainee pilots. The pupils stationed along the river hold up their Hazard cards and the trainee pilot has to try and memorise each one. The cards are then placed face-down in position along the river. The pilots each take one of the 'ships' in tow along the river. As they reach a hazard, they have to guess which hazard is written on the card. For each one they get right they get awarded a point. For the second trainee pilot, the cards are put in different places. The pilot then has to try and memorise where they are. The cards are then put face down. He then takes a ship in tow and has to guess what is on each card as he passes them. This exercise is repeated for the third pilot. The pilot with the most correct answers is awarded a certificate to say he is now a qualified pilot. Plenary A quick quiz to consolidate their knowledge about the Tyne Pilots.	Resources Hazard cards Resources: useful websites U tube film on the Tyne Pilots https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ozBEeCps_oWM http://www.pilotmag.co.uk/2008/06/30/tyne-pilots-the-end-of-an-era/ http://tyneareasc.org.uk/tag/tyne-pilots/





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ROCKS

SHALLOW WATER

MUDBANK

SANDBANK

SUNKEN WRECK



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Piloting to a Safe Anchorage



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