

Nurturing Nurses Mary Seacole





Aim

• I can recall and explain facts about Mary Seacole

Success Criteria

- I can tell you some of the key events in Mary Seacole's life
- I can explain how Mary Seacole helped soldiers
- I can tell you how Mary Seacole improved nursing

Crimean Hospitals



What do we already know?

- 1. When was the Crimean War?
- 2. Where did the Crimean War take place?
- 3. What was it like for the injured soldiers in the army hospitals?
- 4. Who was helping the injured soldiers in the hospitals?



Mary Seacole

Who was Mary Seacole?

Mary Grant was born in 1805 in Jamaica. Mary's mother was Jamaican and her father was a Scottish soldier. Mary's mother was a doctress, a healer who used African and Caribbean herbal remedies. Mary's mother was a nurse and when she was 12, Mary started to help her mum look after the sick.



Mary took over a hospital for soldiers in Jamaica. She cared for the soldiers and their families.



On 10th November 1836, Mary married Edwin Horation Hamilton Seacole in Kingston. He died eight years later.

Mary travelled to the Crimea and at the 'British Hotel' hospital she cared for and treated injured soldiers.

Mary Seacole died in May 1881 in her home in London.

Challenges



In 1854, Mary decided she wanted to care for soldiers fighting in the Crimean war.

Mary travelled to England and went to the War Office in London. She wanted to help with the work Florence Nightingale had started but was turned away.

In those days there was a lot of racial prejudice which meant people were treated differently because of the colour of their skin.





Mary was so keen to help that she paid for herself to travel to Crimea.

What kind of person was Mary Seacole?

How do you know?

Challenges



Mary opened the 'British Hotel' in Balaclava, just 2 miles from the fighting.



Mary cared for the soldiers, provided them with food and treated them with her herbal remedies. She became known as 'Mother Seacole'.





Mary would even help soldiers in the middle of battle. For this she became loved and respected by both the soldiers and the British people.

Mary Seacole



What impact did Mary Seacole have?

In 1856 the war ended. Mary returned to Britain with little money. She was very popular with soldiers, who raised money for her.

Mary wrote a book about her life called 'Wonderful Adventures of Mrs. Seacole in Many Lands'.



Turkey awarded Mary Seacole a medal for her bravery.



Mary Seacole improved the lives of soldiers by opening a hospital to look after them, treating soldiers with herbal remedies and even helping them on the battlefield.

Mary Seacole was a great role model for women. She made her way in the world independently and was proud to be half Scottish and half Jamaican.

For about 100 years the work of Mary Seacole was forgotten but then a group of nurses in Jamaica reminded everyone of what she did.

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