**Checking out the ‘other’ history**

In the poem, John Agard mentions several significant figures (or peoples) whom he feels have been overlooked in History:

* Toussaint L’Ouverture
* Nanny de maroon
* Shaka ‘de great Zulu’ warrior
* Arawaks and Caribs
* Mary Seacole.
  1. Use the prompt cards on each topic to begin your research. Each card has some questions and activities to get you started, but you can add to this as your research progresses.
  2. Once you have collected all your information, organise your notes so that you can present your findings clearly.

**Toussaint L’Overture**

1. Write a list of questions about things you **need to find out**, such as:

* key dates (birth, death, etc)
* what he is most famous for
* what his significant achievements were.
  1. Make a list of any key terms that need to be explained. Add to this list as you go, but start with:
* slavery
* Hispaniola
* Mulatto
* republic
* Haitian revolution.
  1. Check that your notes cover everything that Agard mentions in the poem. Have you missed out anything important?
  2. Can you find a picture of Toussaint L’Ouverture?

**Nanny the Maroon**

1. Write a list of questions about things you **need to find out**, such as:

* key dates (birth, death, etc)
* her other names
* what she is most famous for
* what her significant achievements were.

1. Make a list of any key terms that need to be explained. Add to this list as you go, but start with:

* maroon
* obeah
* guerrilla warfare.

1. Check that your notes cover everything that Agard mentions in the poem. Have you missed out anything important?
2. Can you find a picture of Nanny?

**Shaka the Zulu**

1. Write a list of questions about things you **need to find out**, such as:

* key dates (birth, death, etc)
* what he is most famous for
* what his significant achievements were.

1. Make a list of any key terms that need to be explained. Add to this list as you go, but start with:

* impi
* asegaai.

1. Can you find a picture of Shaka the Zulu?
2. What negative things does your research show about Shaka? Can you think of any reason why he is called ‘great’ by John Agard?

**Caribs and Arawaks**

* 1. Write a list of questions about things you **need to find out**,such as:
* Who were/are Arawaks?
* Who were/are Caribs?
* Where and when did they live?
* What are the important elements of their cultures?
* What factors led to their decline?
  1. Make a list of any key terms that need to be explained. Add to this list as you go, but start with:
* Taino
* shaman
* Hispaniola.
  + 1. Can you make a sketch map to show their location in the 15th century and in the present day?
    2. Your research may uncover quite contradictory pictures of these tribes. Why do you think some of the descriptions are so negative?

**Mary Seacole**

1. Write a list of questions about things you **need to find out**, such as:

* key dates (birth, death, etc)
* what she is most famous for
* what her significant achievements were
* why she has become well known again in modern times.

1. Make a list of any key terms that need to be explained. Add to this list as you go, but start with:

* Crimean War
* sutler
* cholera.

1. Check that your notes cover everything that Agard mentions in the poem. Have you missed out anything important?
2. Can you find a picture of Mary Seacole?

**1066 and the Battle of Hastings**

1. Write a list of questions about things you **need to find out**, such as:

* key dates

who it was between

* why it was significant

1. Make a list of any key terms that need to be explained. Add to this list as you go, but start with:

* The Norman conquest
* Edward the Confessor
* Harold Godwinson
* William III

1. Check that your notes cover everything that Agard mentions in the poem. Have you missed out anything important?
2. Can you find a map showing the key places involved?

**Napoleon Boneparte**

1. Write a list of questions about things you **need to find out**, such as:

* key dates (birth, death, etc)
* what he is most famous for
* what his significant achievements were andwhy he is well known

1. Make a list of any key terms that need to be explained. Add to this list as you go, but start with:

* Corsica
* France
* Waterloo
* French Revolution

1. Check that your notes cover everything that Agard mentions in the poem. Have you missed out anything important?
2. Can you find a picture of Napoleon and a map locating Corsica and France?

**Lord Nelson**

1. Write a list of questions about things you **need to find out**, such as:

* key dates (birth, death, etc)
* what he is most famous for
* what his significant achievements were why he is still well known today

1. Make a list of any key terms that need to be explained. Add to this list as you go, but start with:

* French Revolution
* Waterloo
* Royal Navy
* Cape Trafalgar

1. Check that your notes cover everything that Agard mentions in the poem. Have you missed out anything important?
2. Can you find a picture of Lord Nelson and a map to locate Cape Trafalgar?

**Christopher Columbus**

1. Write a list of questions about things you **need to find out**, such as:

* key dates (birth, death, etc)
* what he is most famous for
* what his significant achievements were and why he is still well known

1. Make a list of any key terms that need to be explained. Add to this list as you go, but start with:

* West Indies
* Explorer
* Spain

1. Check that your notes cover everything that Agard mentions in the poem. Have you missed out anything important?
2. Can you find a picture of Columbus and locate the places which are associated with him on a map?