

# Crime and Punishment

History

Year 5/6

Lesson 5 of 7

Learning Objective		Resources
To explore crime and punishment in the early modern period.		Slides Worksheet 5A/5B/5C Information Sheet Criminal Cards (FSD? activity only) Cause Cards (FSD? activity only)
Teaching Input		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explain that today we will be studying the early modern period which covers from the Stuarts until 1800. Show children the timeline on the slides.</li> <li>Explain that the period started off with a plot to blow up the Houses of Parliament. Go through the information about the Gunpowder Plot on the slides.</li> <li>There was also a Civil War during this period, which was also partly due to religion. There were lots of crimes related to religion at this time, such as witchcraft.</li> <li>Go through the information on the slides about crime and punishment at this time, e.g. the increase in the number of smugglers, highwaymen and poachers and the reasons behind this. Explain that punishments became harsher and that a new punishment of transportation was introduced.</li> <li>What do you think was the biggest change in crime and punishment during this period? Invite children to share their ideas.</li> </ul>		
Main Activity		
<u>Lower ability:</u>  On worksheet 5A, children to match up the definition of each type of criminal to its description. When finished, children to answer the questions using the Information Sheet to help if necessary.	<u>Middle ability:</u>  On worksheet 5B, children to define each of the type of criminals listed, then describe why each of the crimes became more common in this period and answer the questions, using the Information Sheet to help if necessary.	<u>Higher ability:</u>  On worksheet 5C, children to imagine they are a criminal who has been convicted of a crime and sentenced to transportation. Children to write an account of their experience, including details of the crime they committed, their trial, the journey to America and what they had to do once they got there.
Fancy something different...?		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide children with a set of the Criminal Cards in small groups, as well as a set of the Cause Cards. Give children some time to read through the crimes and their causes, then ask them to match the causes to the crime.</li> <li>When finished, children to leave their cards on the table, then move around to another group. Do they have the same causes as you chose for each crime? If not, what is different and why do you think they chose this cause? As a class, invite children to question each other's choices.</li> </ul>		
Plenary	Assessment Questions	
If you could be hanged for stealing anything more than 5 shillings (about 25p) why do you think some juries found guilty people innocent? How did earlier government policy and changes in religion still affect this period in terms of crime and punishment? Children to discuss ideas as a class.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Do children know which crimes became common during this period and why?</li> <li>Do children know which aspects of crime and punishment stayed the same between the medieval period and the early modern period?</li> <li>Can children describe which punishments were new during this period?</li> </ul>	