

Tudor Resource Box

Introduction

Welcome to the Tudor box. This resource is for teachers and group leaders working with Special Educational Needs groups. This box contains resources to support your self-directed visit to the Tudor Gallery.

The resource box contains:

- Information about five Tudor portraits.
- Questions to discuss with your group.
- Cross-curricular activities to try in the gallery or after your visit.
- Activity sheets for your group to complete and take away.
- Handling objects to use with your group in the gallery as you explore the portraits.
- Magnifiers, pencil grips and Makaton symbols to use in the gallery.



NPG 5175



NPG 416



NPG 4027



NPG 5511



NPG 2561

Please note, portraits in the gallery can go off display at very short notice. Please check in the IT Gallery to see if these portraits are on display or look for alternatives to use.

Tudor Resource Box

Resources

**Queen Elizabeth I 1533–1603**

(‘The Coronation Portrait’)

by Unknown Artist

Oil on panel, 1600

NPG 5175

This portrait shows a 26-year-old Elizabeth in her coronation robes. This image was used as the basis for coins and seals and is unusual because she is shown full face. This portrait is based on a now lost original which dated from Elizabeth’s coronation in 1559. Her long flowing hair was traditional for a coronation. Elizabeth’s dress is made from woven gold and silk thread and it was used by Mary I, five years earlier. It is decorated with Tudor roses and fleur-de-lis (this refers to the English claim on French soil).

Questions

Teachers/group leaders may wish to refer to these questions:

- Who is she? What is her job? How do you know?
- Is she young or old? How can you tell?
- Look at her face. Is she showing her feelings? How do you think she feels?
- Describe her clothes. What colours and patterns can you see? What materials are they made of?
- Is she wearing her every day clothes or are they clothes for a special occasion?
- How might it feel to wear these clothes?
- What is she holding, and why?

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Resources

Suggested Activities: In the Gallery



Can you find?

- Elizabeth wanted people to think of the sun when they saw her. Find as many things as you can in the portrait that remind you of the sun (look for colours, materials, shapes). Why do you think she wanted to be like the sun?



Art activity

- This portrait was used on gold sovereigns (there is a replica in this box). The picture of Elizabeth on the coin is made of simple shapes without much detail. Choose your favourite portrait of Elizabeth in the gallery and design a new coin.



Follow-up Activity: Back at school

Art activity

- Using the designs you made during your visit, make coins using foil, card or modeling clay.

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**Queen Elizabeth I 1533–1603**

(‘The Ditchley Portrait’)

By Marcus Gheeraerts the Younger

Oil on canvas, 1592

NPG 2561

Elizabeth is 59-years-old in this portrait. She is standing on a globe with her feet placed on England. Her white dress a symbol of virginity and the rose pinned to her ruff represents the house of Tudor. The left of the portrait shows sunshine, the right a cloudy, stormy sky. Elizabeth has turned her back on her stormy past and is looking towards a brighter future. Sir Henry Lee commissioned this portrait, which commemorates Elizabeth’s forgiveness of him for taking a mistress. It is called the ‘Ditchley’ portrait because she is standing on Sir Henry Lee’s house in Ditchely, Oxfordshire.

Questions

Teachers/group leaders may wish to refer to these questions:

- Who is she? Are there any other portraits of her in the gallery?
- Compare this portrait to the Coronation portrait. Is she older or younger? How can you tell?
- Why isn’t she smiling? What is she hiding?
- How many different types of jewels can you spot? Why is she wearing so many jewels?
- What has been included in the picture to show that she is Queen of England? (Standing on a map of England.)
- What is the weather like? (Left sunny, right stormy.)
- What is she holding? Can you link the objects to the weather in the picture? Use the objects in the Tudor resource box to help you.
- Is she looking towards the stormy weather or the sunny weather? Why? How is she feeling?

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Suggested Activities: In the Gallery



Copy her pose

- Dress up using some of the objects in the resource box and try to stand in her pose. How would this have felt? Try to copy her expression. Her mouth is small because she has lost many of her teeth.



Look and discuss

- Compare the map in the picture to the modern map of Great Britain. Why are they different?



Art activity

- Using the worksheet in the Tudor resource box, draw some of Elizabeth's jewels.

Follow-up Activities: Back at school



Art activity

- Using the drawings you made in the gallery, make jewels like Elizabeth's using modeling clay, plaster or paper mache.

Art activity & Geography

- Make a map of somewhere special to you.

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**King Henry VII 1457–1509**

By Unknown Artist

Oil on panel, arched top, 1505

NPG 416

Henry VII was the son of Edmund Tudor and the head of the House of Lancaster. He established the Tudor monarchy when he defeated Richard III at the Battle of Bosworth Field in 1485. During his reign he established relative peace in England and amassed enormous wealth for the crown. This portrait was possibly painted as part of an unsuccessful marriage proposal to Margaret of Savoy, the daughter of the Holy Roman Emperor Maximilian I. Henry hoped she would be second wife.

Questions

Teachers/group leaders may wish to refer to these questions:

- Is he rich or poor? How can you tell?
- In the picture, is he indoors or outdoors? What is he looking through?
- Henry sent this portrait to Margaret of Savoy because he hoped to marry her. Do you think she said yes? Why or why not?
- What is he holding? Why is he holding it? Use the object in the resource box to help you. (Red rose = Tudor family).
- What is he wearing? Do you think these are his every day clothes or are they special? Why is he wearing them?
- Can you spot Henry in any other portraits?

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Suggested Activities: In the Gallery



Can you find?

- The red rose Henry is holding is a symbol of the Tudor family. Can you find other portraits with Tudor roses in them?



Role-play

- If Henry stuck his head through your window, holding a rose, what do you think he would say to you? What would you do? Role-play a conversation with Henry (use the objects in the resource box as props).



Art activity

- Using the worksheet in the resource box, design a symbol to represent your family.

Follow-up Activities: Back at school



Art activity

- Turn the family symbol you designed in the gallery into a badge for someone to wear.



Art activity

- Draw a portrait of yourself. What clothes would you wear to impress? What would you hold?

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**King Henry VIII 1491–1547;
King Henry VII 1457–1509**

By Hans Holbein the Younger

Ink and watercolour, 1536–1537

NPG 4027

Henry VIII commissioned Holbein in 1537 to make a large wall painting to celebrate the Tudor dynasty and the birth of his son Edward in October 1537. This portrait is a large scale preparatory drawing on paper called a cartoon. It is the left hand section of the wall painting for Whitehall Palace (now destroyed) which shows Henry VIII in the foreground and his father Henry VII behind him. From a surviving copy of the original painting we know that the right hand side of the painting depicted Jane Seymour and Elizabeth of York.

Questions

Teachers/group leaders may wish to refer to these questions:

- Who can you see in the front of the portrait?
- Do you think that he really looked like this?
- In this picture, how is Henry VIII showing us that he is a rich and powerful man?
- Who is the man at the back of the portrait? Can you see him in any other pictures in the Gallery?
- Look carefully. Can you see the joins? This picture is made of lots of pieces of paper joined together. Why?
- Would this picture fit on your wall at home? This is a small part of an even bigger picture! What kind of building would it have been displayed in?

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Suggested Activities: In the Gallery



Art activity

- This portrait is a sketch, so it has not been coloured in. What colours would the artist have used? Look at some Tudor portraits in the Gallery for ideas and colour in the line drawing of Henry.



Art activity

- Pose like Henry and copy his expression. How does it make you feel? Make a picture of Henry using only squares, circles, rectangles and triangles. Use the shapes in the resource box to help you.



Follow-up Activities: Back at school

Art activity

- Draw self portraits, cut them out and join them together to make a large group portrait. Collage coloured paper for the background, and embellish by adding drawings, pictures cut from magazines and other collage materials.

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**King Edward VI 1537–1553**

By Unknown Artist

Oil on panel, 1547

NPG 5511

The son of Henry VIII and Jane Seymour, Edward succeeded his father in 1547 aged nine and died of tuberculosis shortly before his sixteenth birthday. In this portrait, which is thought to have been painted after his accession, Edward mimics the forceful pose of his father seen in Holbein's Whitehall Cartoon. Edward ruled England with the help of a council, dominated at first by the Duke of Somerset as Lord Protector, and later by the Duke of Northumberland. The latter induced Edward to will the crown to his daughter-in-law Lady Jane Grey, in order to ensure the Protestant succession to the throne.

Questions

Teachers/group leaders may wish to refer to these questions:

- What is his job? How can you tell?
- Is he wearing a crown? Can you see one in the portrait?
- Can you find another portrait in the room that contains a person standing like Edward? This is Edward's father, King Henry VIII. Why is Edward copying his pose?
- How old is he? Is he older or younger than you?
- What is he standing on?
- What is the big object behind Edward? Why do you think it has been included in the picture?

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Suggested Activities: In the Gallery



Can you find?

- This picture is full of things made of expensive materials to show us how rich Edward and his family was. What materials can you see?



Look and discuss

- How would you feel if you were made king or queen at the same age as Edward? Would you rule the country on your own? Who would you ask to help you?



Art activity

- Look carefully at the carpet in the picture. What shapes and patterns can you see? Use the squared paper in this box to copy some of the patterns. Can you find any lines of symmetry?

Follow-up Activities: Back at school



Discussion: History

- Do you think everyone lived like Edward did in Tudor times? What do you think life was like for poor people?