

Year 8 History

The Windrush Generation

Windrush Day takes place on 22 June, remembering the day when around 500 migrants from the Caribbean arrived at Tilbury Docks in Essex in 1948.

Britain was just starting to recover from World War Two back then. Thousands of buildings had been bombed, lots of houses had been destroyed and it all needed to be rebuilt.

In the Caribbean, lots of young men and women had served in the British armed forces because at the time, many Caribbean countries were still under British rule and not yet independent.

After the war, some of these people answered an advert to come to Britain where there were lots of different jobs to do.

Other people just wanted to see Britain, which they had heard so much about.

Task 1: Background information

Watch the Newsround reports about the Windrush generation, how they got to Britain and about the racial prejudice they experienced when they arrived: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/43793769>

Read the information about the issues they faced in 1971 and 2012 and the subsequent formal apology from the British government in 2018 (same website).

Summarise the information in four short paragraphs.

Task 2: Where did the migrants come from?

Research the territories that used to belong to the British Empire. If you can, add the date they gained their independence from Britain.

Complete the map on the separate sheet entitled 'Caribbean Countries quiz' to locate and name the countries on the map.

Task 3: What was it like to be a Windrush migrant?

Watch the YouTube Video about three migrant stories.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NME-9ot2Lqw>

Now watch the BBC Teach video:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/history-ks3--gcse-immigration-to-london-from-ghana-and-jamaica/z4vs382>

Write a recount from the viewpoint of a Windrush migrant. You can choose any section of the story for example, the journey, the arrival, their treatment on arrival, their treatment in 1971, 2012 or 2018.

You can choose to present it in a format of your choice such as video, animation, story, diary entry or storyboard.