



What's going on this week?

Following protests campaigning for Black Lives Matter, demonstrators in Bristol pulled down a statue of a former slave trader, Edward Colston and threw it into the harbour. It is likely that the statue will now be placed in a museum. Many other famous statues have been in question in other parts of the UK, with issues regarding what they represent and if they should be given such prominent positions in towns and cities.

Main question:

Why do we have statues?

Listen, think, share

- Look at this week's poster and ask if anyone knows who this statue is of? Explain that it is of Mary Seacole. A nurse in the Crimean war.
- Are there any statues or monuments near where you live? Do you know why they are there and the history behind them? If not, can you think of any other famous statues?
- Read through the assembly resource, which provides information about people that have statues in their memory and information on others that don't. Who do you think are the most deserving of having a statue and why?
- If statues upset or offend people, do you think they should be taken down? Explain that a statue of a former slave trader, Edward Colston, was pulled down by protestors who didn't think it should be in public, given his past. It is thought that the statue will be placed in a museum. For any statues that are taken down, what do you think should happen to them? Do you think a museum is a good place? Why?
- Talk about who you think should decide who the statues are of and where they should be placed?
- Watch this week's useful video (found overleaf). Are you surprised that the statue of Lily Parr is the first statue of a female footballer in the UK?
- Can you think of other people, famous or not who have statues? What reasons do you think there should be to warrant statues to be made?

Reflection

Statues and monuments can mean different things to different people. As time moves on, society changes and so it is important for us all to reflect on what we value and choose to celebrate collectively.



KS1 Focus

Question:

What is a statue?

Listen, think, share

- Write the word 'statue'. Have you heard of this word before? Have you ever played musical statues or has anyone ever told you to stand still like a statue?
- Explain that a statue is an object made from a hard material, usually stone or metal. They are often of people and animals and are life-size or larger.
- Look at resource 1, which shows some examples of statues. Have you seen a statue before? Who or what was the statue of? Where was the statue?
- Some statues are famous and show people who have done something or achieved something that is recognised by many people such as the statue of Amy Johnson. They are put in public places, where anybody can look at them.
- Look at the statue of the lion, which is found in somebody's garden. Why do you think someone would have a statue in their garden? Might it be because it looks nice or it has a special meaning to them? This statue is not in a public place so is just for the person living in this home and their guests.
- Do you like statues? Why/why not?

Reflection

A statue is often made of stone or metal and usually shows people and animals. There are many different statues, that are positioned for many different reasons.



KS2 Focus

Question:

Who do we think deserves a statue to celebrate their achievements?

Listen, think, share

- Record a list of reasons why we might have statues e.g. to tell stories, to honour a person or an event, to preserve a memory, to celebrate someone's achievements, for decoration.
- Explain that many statues of people, placed in public areas, have been selected because they have accomplished something in their city, country or even the world.
- Look at resource 2, where some children share who they think deserves a statue and why. Do you agree that these people should have a statue? Why/why not?
- Discuss who you think deserves a statue. Explain why you think this. Do you think other people will agree with you?
- Sometimes statues can be the cause of debate as not everyone shares the same values so what one person would like to celebrate; another person may prefer to forget. Can you think of any statues of people who you don't think should have one?
- Do you think statues are the best way to celebrate someone's achievements or can you think of other ways?

Reflection

We may not always agree with who deserves to have a statue to celebrate their achievements. This is because we do not always share the same values, as we are all different.

KS2 Follow-up Ideas

Option 1: A biography is a piece of writing about somebody's life. It usually shares key events in that person's life in chronological order. Plan and write a biography of someone you think deserves a statue to celebrate their achievements. Begin by researching their life.

- Where/when were they born?
- What was their childhood like?
- What was their adulthood like?
- What have they achieved?
- Why should they be remembered?

Write your biography remembering to use third person, past tense, vary sentence openers and use interesting vocabulary and punctuation.

Option 2: Make a sculpture/statue of somebody who you think deserves one for their achievements but does not have one. Think about:

- What material will you use? Clay, playdough, plasticine?
- What size will your statue be?
- How will you shape/mould your statue?

Make your statue.

- Was it easier or harder than you thought?
- Does your statue look like the person it is supposed to look like?

Many statues are created using stone or metal.

- Do you think this would be quite tricky?

KS1 Follow-up Ideas

Option 1: Choose one of the statues from resource 1, find another picture of one or use a statue found in your local area! Describe your statue. Think about:

- What the statue is made from? Metal, stone?
- Can you describe the material? Cold, hard?
- Is the statue a person, an animal or something else? What are they doing?
- How would you describe their eyes? Staring, unblinking, happy, sad, lonely?
- When you look at the statue, how does it make you feel?

Record your ideas. If you can, use them to write a sentence or paragraph to describe your statue.

Option 2: Have you heard of a living statue? Explain that these are people who pose as statues. They often wear statue-like make-up and can stand very still!

- Can you pretend to be a statue?
- What will you wear?
- What position will you stand in?
- How long can you remain still for?
- Can you time it?

Explore different statue poses. You could photograph your poses or record them by drawing them afterwards.

This Week's Useful Websites

[This week's news story](#)

www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/52965665



This Week's Useful Videos

[The statue of footballer Lily Parr](#)

www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/48224610



[This week's Virtual Assembly](#)

www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss

This Week's Useful Vocabulary

Demonstrators – people who take part in a public protest march or gathering.

Monuments – a statue, building or structure built to remind people of an event in history or a famous person.

Offend – cause someone to feel upset, annoyed, or resentful.

Prominent – important.

Protests – the act of saying or showing publicly that you object to something.

Warrant – if something warrants an action, it makes the action seem necessary or appropriate for the circumstances.