

LESSON PLAN

A HISTORY OF IRELAND IN 100 OBJECTS, A SELECTION 5TH & 6TH CLASS LESSON PLAN

Viking slave chain late-ninth or early-tenth century



Where to see this object

National Museum of Ireland –
Archaeology, Kildare Street, Dublin 2
[Click here to find out more](#)

Book a class trip to the museum

[Click here to find out more](#)

CURRICULUM LINKS

History

Strand: Story
Strand Unit: Stories from the lives of people in the past
Strand: Early people and ancient societies
Strand Unit: Vikings

English

Strands: Oral language; writing
Strand Unit: Emotional and imaginative development through language

S.P.H.E

Strand: Myself and the wider world
Strand Unit: Developing citizenship

Drama

Strand: Drama to explore feelings, knowledge and ideas, leading to understanding
Strand Unit: Co-operating and communicating in making drama

RESOURCES

- N/A

OBJECTIVES

- To become familiar with aspects of Viking Dublin.
- To empathise with those taken as slaves.
- To recognise the connections between life at that time and life now.

ASSESSMENT

Drama
Creative writing

DIFFERENTIATION

Drama

LESSON

- Display image of Viking slave chain.

Read story of Viking slave chain.

It is recommended that children listen without seeing text on screen, which they can access at a later time.

Discussion B

- What is this?
- What was it used for?
- What part did Dublin play in the slave trade?
- Were slaves considered to be of any importance?
- How do you think the woman in the story felt when she realised she was now a slave?
- What do you think slave owners felt when they went to auction to buy or sell a slave?
- What about her family left behind? How did they feel?
- What do you think happened to them?

Activity – Drama: hot seating

Assessment

Differentiation

A pupil is designated the role of the slave owner who bought the woman in the story of the chain. They sit in the 'hot seat'. The other pupils ask questions from the point of view of the woman, e.g. how did you become a slave owner? Why did you buy me?

Further information for teachers

- Do you think there is still slavery today?

The following website links are included here to assist teachers with background information to facilitate a class discussion. The websites may contain images and information about which some children may be sensitive.

Gender

Around the world, 75 million girls are taken out of school, mostly to help out at home in very poor families.

Child soldiers

There are 300,000 child soldiers, both boys and girls, in the world today.

Child labour

215 million children work full-time today. They do not go to school and have little or no time to play.

Further work – lesson plans

Gender (Ireland and developing world)

Child soldiers

Child labour

EXTENSION EXERCISES

Creative writing

Assessment

- You are a journalist living in Dublin during Viking times. You visit the slave auction and write a report for your newspaper on what you see there.

Objects from pupils

- Ask pupils to bring in objects that are significant in their own family history.
 - Video the pupils talking about their object.
 - Create a photostory with the pupils' objects. Below are links to explanations of photostory and blogging. Pupils speak over image of themselves with object. Cut to next pupil and object. Presentation includes all pupils in class.

Professional Development Service for Teachers: [How to use photostory](#)

[How to blog your photostory](#)

- A or B is put up on school website.

Local history

- Is there an object of interest in the school's locality?