

Witch Trial**Brief summary of activity:**

In this puzzle the user has to use their knowledge of stories about witchcraft to decide upon the guilt or innocence of a series of people. It is an ideal activity to be tied into reading of 'The Crucible'.

Specific Curriculum Area:

Key Stage 3 English

Assessment Method:

As this is an immersive role-play type of activity, teachers could ask pupils to reflect upon their experience, perhaps getting them to keep a log for the duration of the activity and marking that at the end of the session. Alternatively presentations could be constructed that pupils could use to present their finding to the whole class. These could be marked by their peers.

Differentiation:

This activity does not have the opportunity for differentiation, but if the teacher used support material, that could provide the means of differentiation.

Learning Outcomes:

Children will be able to: understand the unjust methods employed throughout history to decide upon guilt; understand how hysteria can spread quickly.

Use of Activity in a Lesson:

This activity would be an excellent task for pupils working individually. It would be good to use this after The Crucible has been studied as it brings together a lot of the information gained from that – although those events happened in the USA and in a different time period. This activity eventually moves in terms of location and time. The task could be used, if pairs produced a slideshow about their experience with the findings being presented to their classmates. Their work could then be peer-reviewed. Another approach would be to work through the trials as a whole class activity using an Interactive Whiteboard.

Hints and Tips for Teachers:

1. Ensure pupils read the introductory notes
2. Ensure pupils are aware of witch trial in history
3. Perhaps knowledge of the McCarthy Trials would be a help for this activity

URL:



Opening screen



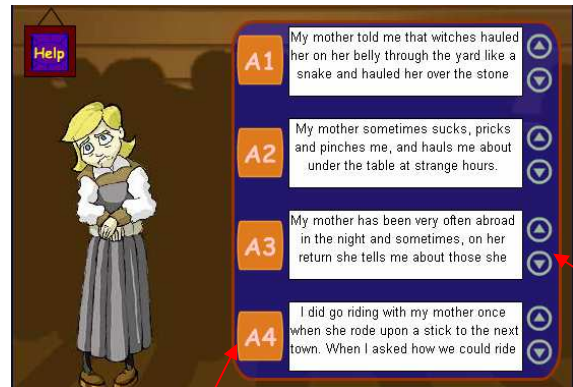
Decide on your role



Pick a case – in this case – you have chosen 'ACCUSED'



Choose



Choose an accusation form the list

'Glow' around accuser you have the mouse hovered over

Scroll to read more



Decision based on your chosen accusation

Explanaton of decision in an historical context

Troubleshooting:

Pupils need to think carefully about their decisions before they make them as they cannot backtrack afterwards.

Other Links:

Bibliography provides a list of suitable alternative sites giving further background information to this topic.