

International Bomber Command Centre

www.internationalbcc.co.uk



Pre-Visit Activity Ideas

Before you bring your class to the IBCC, you may want to prepare your pupils using some of these activity/discussion ideas. More information about Bomber Command in WW2 can be found on our web site and in our IBCC fact sheet.

Introduction:

What is an Interpretation Centre? Has anyone been to one before? Why are we visiting the IBCC?

What are we going to see at the IBCC? How can we find out? How should we behave in a Memorial site?

Key Vocabulary that might be useful for your visit:

Royal Air Force Blitz Second World War Air raid Bomber Command Aircraft Remembrance

Reconciliation Duty Courage Bravery Innocence Fear Morale Volunteers Nations Mascots

Class Activity- Investigative Journalists

Explain to the class that they have been commissioned to write an article about Bomber Command during the Second World War for a local magazine. They can begin researching in the classroom and continue it during their visit to the centre. See writing prompts below.

Writing prompts:

What was Bomber Command? What was their role during the Second World War?

How many people served in Bomber Command and what were the different roles for women and men?

Who was in charge of Bomber Command? Why did people from different countries serve in Bomber Command?

Why was the reputation of Bomber Command different after the War?



Class Activity- Lancaster Crew

Bomber Command was unique in allowing their men to pick their own crews. For a Lancaster Bomber, a 7 Man crew was needed with each man having their own special role. (Descriptions of the roles can be found on the IBCC fact sheet)

Each member of the crew wore a badge on their uniform which highlighted their role within the crew. These badges were called Brevets.

Ask the class to get into groups of seven, in groups allow them to assign roles and design their own team brevets which they can make into badges to wear.

You can photocopy our Brevet Templates for your class to cut out and colour or ask them to design their own from scratch. These can then be glued onto card and made into badges, attached with a safety pin and a bit of tape on the back of the card.