

Summer Term 1 Year 1 History Overview

Key facts

RMS Titanic was a British passenger liner operated by the White Star Line and at the time was the largest manmade moving object on Earth. She struck an iceberg in the North Atlantic Ocean on 14th April 1912 at 23.40 hours four days into her maiden voyage from Southampton to New York. She sank 2 hours and 40 minutes later at 2.20am on Monday 15th April 1912.

There were approximately 2,224 passengers and crew on board and more than 1,500 died making the sinking one of the world's worst maritime disasters.

Of 324 First Class passengers on board 122 died.

Of 272 Second Class passengers on board 155 died

Of 709 Third Class or steerage passengers 537 died.

SS Californian was a British Leyland Line Steamship and failed to help Titanic despite being the closest ship in the area.

RMS Carpathia was the first ship on the scene to help Titanic. Her crew saved 705 people from the icy waters.

Resources

On line clips and footage
Photographs
Non-fiction texts
Newspaper reports/articles
Maps and globes to show the proposed route to New York and her return journey to the UK.

The Titanic

Brief summary/ overview

Titanic was designed by Thomas Andrews. He died on board Titanic.

Joseph Ismay was an English businessman who was the chairman of the White Star Line. He was heavily criticised for surviving the sinking of the Titanic.

Titanic was built in Belfast. It took 3 years to build her. She set off for Southampton on 2nd April 1912 and started her maiden voyage to New York via Cherbourg, France, on 10th April 1912.

Captain Edward John Smith had served with the White Star Line on numerous ships and was due to retire following Titanic's maiden voyage. His last words to the crew were 'Well done boys, do your best for the women and children and look out for yourself.'

Titanic sank 400 miles south of Newfoundland Canada.

Prior Knowledge

Children have explored the first aeroplane flight made by the Wright brothers and the first solo flight across the Atlantic Ocean by Amelia Earhart.

Key Vocabulary

Transport, luxury passenger liner, ship yard maiden voyage, crossing, steerage, Captain, crew, maritime disaster, tragedy, iceberg, First class Second class, Belfast, Southampton, New York, North Atlantic ocean.

Cross curricular links/visits

Geography - cities of the UK
Belfast where Titanic was built.

Surrounding seas – English Channel, Irish Sea and Atlantic Ocean.