

Meanings of Military Service

Learning Resources KS3

Medicine in the First World War: To what extent did war change medicine?

These suggested activities are designed to provide support to teachers using our resources in the classroom.

Suggested sources:

Women doctors
Bringing up reinforcements at the London hospital
Nurses leaving for war service 1914
Five uniformed nurses 1914
John Lavery painting
Our wounded at the hospital
Orders for military patients poster
Jemmie Holcroft, injured airman
A sling bed
Article on war surgery
Warrior Nurses
Book review: Artificial Limbs,

Suggested Activities:

1. Factual: what do these sources tell us about medicine during the war? What do they not tell us? What do they add to what we already know? What do you find surprising?

[Inference activity – A3 sheet, three boxes – what can we definitely tell [centre] what can we probably tell [next box out] what might we infer from these sources [outer box]

2. From these sources, how much did medicine stay the same, and how much did it change?

3. Utility: how useful are these sources as evidence of the medical services available during World War One? Group them in order – most useful to least useful. If you could only choose one source, which one would you choose? Why?

4. What conclusions can we draw about [a] archives, and [b] medicine, from these documents?