

## What we already know:

The Victorian era was around 150 years ago (1837-1901).

A nurse is someone who looks after sick people.

Florence Nightingale lived around the same time (1820-1910).

The Crimean War was a big war in Turkey.

Florence Nightingale became famous through looking after soldiers in the Crimean War.

## Year 1 History: Mary Seacole



## What's next?

Contrast the life of rich Victorians (Florence Nightingale) with poor Victorians (Mary Anning's family) – understand that many more people tend to be poor rather than rich, particularly in the past.

Poor people were often treated unfairly but couldn't do anything about it.

## Timeline-

Further into the past

Beyond living memory

Within living memory

Now

Florence Nightingale

Mary Seacole



### Story of Britain

Mary Seacole was famous for nursing around the same time as Florence Nightingale. She was born just before the Victorian period began. She was 15 years older than FN. She was born in Jamaica (both English speaking, different skin colours).

Mary opened the 'British Hotel' in Balaclava, just 2 miles from the fighting. Mary cared for the soldiers, provided them with food and treated them with her herbal remedies. She became known as 'Mother Seacole'.

In 1856 the war ended. Mary returned to Britain with little money. She was very popular with soldiers, who raised money for her.

### Society and Government

- Mary Seacole had to pay for her own ticket to Crimea because she was black.
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- Mary heard about the war and wanted to sign up. She heard there was a shortage of nurses – went to sign up but was told she wasn't needed.
- She knew she was rejected because of the colour of her skin.

### Economy and Trade

- Jamaica was part of the British Empire (1797-1962).
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- The British Government would not take her on as a hospital nurse there – some say they rejected her because of her colour. Others report that she applied too late – after the nurses had already set off to Crimea. In any case Mary Seacole refused to take 'no' for an answer.

### Beliefs



### Vocab

#### Tier One

Battles  
Nurse  
Wounded  
Jamaica  
War

#### Tier Two

**Crimean war** - a war between Russia and Britain/France/Turkey  
**Creole:** Someone from the Caribbean who has one African-American parent and one White European parent.

#### Tier Three

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