5a. The Jarrow March

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KS2 Writing, History

- Identify the audience for and purpose of writing, selecting the appropriate form and using other similar writing as models for their own. Pupils should be taught about events beyond living memory that are significant nationally or globally.
- I can write an informal letter showing my feelings and thoughts on a subject. I can write a formal
 letter to persuade an important person to seeing my point of view. I can understand the reasons
 behind the Jarrow March.

KS2 Geography, Maths

- Use the eight points of a compass, four and six figure grid references, symbols and key (including the use of Ordnance Survey maps) to build their knowledge of the United Kingdom and the wider world. Name and locate counties and cities of the United Kingdom.
- I can plot journeys between different locations using an atlas and other maps. I can plot and calculate the distance and time taken for a march to a number of different places.

Writing, History

Informal writing

Imagine you are a Marcher. Write 3 postcards home:

- First, one day after starting. What do you hope the March will achieve?
- Second, at the halfway point of the march (where is this on the map?). Newspaper reports on your March are being published—do they tell the true story?
- Finally, from London. How does the Prime Minister's response make you feel?

Formal writing

Use your train journey home from London to write a letter to the Prime Minister, Stanley Baldwin. What will your letter focus on?

What issues would you march for today? Who would you write to about those issues?

Maths, Geography

What methods of transport existed in 1936? Why did the Marchers choose to walk? How would you travel to London today?

Use a print or digital map to plan a route from Jarrow Town Hall to the Houses of Parliament in London.:

- Try using route planning software, for example https://www.google.co.uk/ maps or https://www.theaa.com/ route-planner/index.jsp
- The Marchers' distance was reported as 300miles. What is your precise distance?

How many days did the Marchers' march take? How far did they march each day? [they marched for 23 days out of 26; assume they marched the same distance each day. 300 miles ÷ 23 days = 13 miles a day]

Summary of comic: Overview of the Jarrow March as non-political march (with support of Ellen Wilkinson as local MP and her focus on employment), rather than inaccurate presentation as 'Miss Wilkinson's March'. Text styled as newspaper clippings shows the mixed response to the march; marchers returned to Jarrow as heroes but no immediate changes were made by the government.

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Read online: http://research.ncl.ac.uk/fccomics/chapters/therighttowork.html

