

## **TEACHERS NOTES**

**Paul Bogle**

### **Links to the National Curriculum for Key Stage 3 History**

Students will gain historical perspective by placing their growing knowledge into different contexts, understanding the connections between national and international history; between cultural, economic, military and political history.

This lesson would easily fit into schemes of learning on the following topics:

- Political power, industry and empire.
- Britain as the first industrial nation – the impact on society.
- The development of the British Empire, party politics and social reform.
- Britain's Transatlantic Slave Trade: its effects and its eventual abolition
- The History of protest and/or civil rights movements.
- The lesson is also relevant to Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural SMSC development

The lesson gives students the ability to be reflective about their own non religious beliefs and perspective on life, their knowledge of, and respect for, different people's feelings and values. It will build their understanding of the history of Britain from the earliest times to the present day: especially how the actions and views of people in Jamaica have shaped this nation.

It offers the opportunity to develop reasoned views about moral and ethical issues. Giving students a chance to understand and appreciate the viewpoints of others on historical issues.

### **Lesson structure**

This lesson follows the enquiry question

**“Why is it important who tells the story?”**

The four-part structure outlines the story of Paul Bogle and shows how Bogle has been viewed as both a hero and a rebel in Jamaica and Britain as a result of the events that take place after The Abolition Act is passed in 1834. Students have a chance to listen to the poetry of Lawrence Hoo and engage in extended reading to learn about the wider context. They then have the opportunity to interrogate a range of contemporary sources to investigate their utility for the enquiry question.



## **Father Bogle**

Imagine believing that slavery had been abolished  
Yet you must still pay for your freedoms  
Wouldn't you feel disbelief and be astonished

Paul Bogle was born in St Thomas Jamaica in 1822  
At least this part of histories taught to us is true

Paul Bogle grew up in Jamaica at the time of its recorded great transition  
In reality all the power still remained with the white classed population

Paul Bogle was born free but to be truly free came with a fee  
That was to be paid by all who wished to vote in this new country

Even though the abolition of the slave trade act had finally been passed  
It was almost impossible for the previously enslaved to move up from last

Paul Bogle grew up to be an exception to this rule  
Acquiring over 500 acres of land which proved he was no fool

By elevating himself to a position usually only held by colonial governors  
Paul Bogle became a great inspiration and spokesperson for all others

Paul Bogle rose up to become a highly respected Baptist deacon  
Who spoke out for people to have human rights combined with their freedom

On the 7th October 1865 a local man was arrested and charged with trespassing on an old  
abandoned plantation  
This incensed the villagers of Stony Gut and the man was later freed through force by a local  
congregation

On returning to the village it was discovered that 27 warrants had been issued for crimes ranging  
from rioting to assaulting the police  
So it was decided that the people of Stony Gut would march to Morant Bay court house led by  
Paul Bogle to demand that these and future warrants cease

October 11 1865 they marched into town but before they could reach the court house to protest  
they were fired upon  
Killing seven protesters and sparking a riot in which another 18 people died and all before the  
protest had begun



The British Governor of Jamaica Edward Eyre sent troops to quickly put down the uprising  
In truth it had already died down but that didn't stop him ordering his troops to commit more killing

439 killed by troops 354 arrested then executed with over 600 others being flogged and jailed  
Paul Bogle was one of the many that was arrested and executed by a system that had failed

The rebellion and its punishments had a huge impact in Jamaica and England  
Splitting people's opinions over Governor Edwards Eyre's actions and stand

On returning to England in 1866 Edward Eyre was charged twice with murder but the charges never got  
to trial  
Ensuring that Edward Eyre could still be viewed as a hero instead of someone most vile

Due to Paul Bogle's beliefs and stand Jamaica began to change and this is his legacy  
Paul Bogle laid down his life for the lives of others to have a chance to create their own destiny

Lawrence Hoo