Unit of Work 3rd/4th Class Butler Story

Links with the Curriculum

Strand Local Studies Strand Unit My locality throughout the ages
The children should become familiar with important events in the history of the locality, referring to the wider national context where relevant

Strand: Story Strand Unit Stories from the lives of people in the past
The children should be enabled to discuss, retell, and record a range of stories from the lives of people who have made a contribution to local and/or national life…including those who have contributed to social and political developments.

Content of the Study

The children should learn about
- Where the Butlers came from and how they got their name
- The impact of the Butler family on the history of Kilkenny City
- The Butlers in the wider context of Irish and British History

Skills and concepts development: Children should be able to:

Time and Chronology

Describe events as before/after/, later/earlier, understand the concept of century
Use a simple timeline

Change and continuity

Within each chapter of Butler History, identify what changes took place and what remained the same. Identify the change and continuity in the urban environment in Kilkenny which was influenced by the Butlers.

Cause and effect

Examine the reasons for the changes in Butler fortunes throughout their history and the effect of this change for the family, city and in some cases the country.

Synthesis and Communication

Communicate an awareness of the history of the Butlers and stories associated with them, in a variety of different ways such as drama and art and creative writing.

Empathy

Imagine and discuss what it was like to be, for example, Black Tom’s daughter Elizabeth, when her first husband died.

Methodologies It is up to the individual teacher how to use this material
Among the methods which may be used are

A story lesson based on each chapter of Butler history
Environment: visiting Kilkenny Castle /Examining photographs, paintings,
Integration with creative writing – writing a dialogue between characters

Assessment

Teacher observation Outcomes of pupil-pupil and teacher-pupil discussion Teacher-designed tasks Work cards designed to help children examine the evidence