

Our experiences of the Queen

Teacher-led class discussion

(To view the videos in your classroom enter "jubilee.dk.com" into your browser's address bar)

Can you believe the Queen is celebrating her Platinum Jubilee this year?

That's an impressive 70 years on the throne. Just imagine all the events she has been to and all the thousands of people she has met!

Here are four fascinating video clips of famous people (Sir Paul Nurse, Mackenzie Thorpe, Ellie Goldstein and Dame Jane Goodall) sharing their memories and thoughts about the Queen.

But before we take a peek at the video clips...

Let's discuss as a class what *you* remember or think of when you think about the Queen:

Where have you seen the Queen?

Can you think of any events or special Royal occasions that have taken place in your lifetime? How were they celebrated?

Here are some you might remember or know about...

- ★ Prince William and Kate's wedding (2011)
- ★ The Queen's Diamond Jubilee (2012)
- ★ Prince George is born (2013)
- ★ Princess Charlotte is born (2015)
- ★ The Queen's 90th birthday (2016)
- ★ The Queen's Sapphire Jubilee (2017)
- ★ Prince Louis is born (2018)
- ★ Prince Harry and Meghan's wedding (2018)
- ★ Prince Philip's (Queen's husband) funeral (2021)

Watch the video clips

Now let's take a look at what these famous people remember about their experiences with the Queen...

Watch the video clips with your class:

Sir Paul Nurse - scientist, winner of the Nobel Prize for Physiology in 2001, member of the Royal Society

Mackenzie Thorpe - British artist

Ellie Goldstein - British model

Dame Jane Goodall - Conservationist and chimpanzee expert

Discuss the video clips

So we have just heard from four famous people about their personal experiences and thoughts about the Queen. What did they say?

Where had they seen the Queen?

What did they tell us about the Queen?

How do they describe her?

Did they have a message for the Queen?

Here are some of the words used to describe the Queen in the video clips.

polite, interested, witty, funny, stylish, a fashion icon, warm smile, glowing eyes, lovely, amazing, an inspirational woman, glamorous, remarkable woman, longest reigning British sovereign

Activity

Now you are going to have a go at making your very own video clip talking about the Queen. You could work individually, in pairs or groups to create a short presentation/speech to film, record or present to the class.

Things to consider:

- How will you introduce yourself?
- Where have you seen the Queen?
- What events do you remember?
- Can you include a message for the Queen?

Time to plan...

- ★ Try jotting down your ideas

Now rehearse...

- ★ Practice your presentation
- ★ Take a look at the Top Tips

Get the camera rolling...

- ★ Work as a team to record your own mini talks about your personal experiences and thoughts about the Queen.



Talking about the Queen

This year Queen Elizabeth II celebrates her Platinum Jubilee - 70 years on the throne. What an incredible achievement and moment in history!

In these video clips, four famous people tell us their memories and thoughts about the Queen, providing a rare insight.

Share the introduction for each famous person with the children in class or an assembly. Then watch the corresponding video clip together before asking questions. Finally, there are some follow up activity ideas to explore in class or set as a challenge at the end of the assembly.

Sir Paul Nurse

Sir Paul Nurse is a scientist. He has won a Nobel Prize for Physiology (an area of science that looks at living things). Sir Paul Nurse was just six years old when he first saw the Queen and has since sat by her at a lunch!

Watch the video clip of Sir Paul Nurse talking about the Queen...

Questions to ask:

Paul waved a flag as the Queen drove past his house in her car.

What would you do if you saw or met the Queen?

(Possible answers: Wave a flag, cheer, bow or curtsy, smile)

Imagine getting to sit next to the Queen at lunch like Paul!

What would you like to ask the Queen at lunch?

(Possible answers: What is the best thing about being a Queen? What is her favourite dessert?)

Paul says the Queen was so polite and interesting when he met her.

How can you be polite like the Queen?

(Possible answers: Say please and thank you, hold the door open for people, listen carefully when someone is talking to you)

Another thing Paul remembers about meeting the Queen was that she was witty and funny. Can you tell the person next to you a joke?

Follow-up activity ideas:

- ★ Roleplay seeing or meeting the Queen or having lunch with the Queen
- ★ Write down questions you would like to ask the Queen
- ★ Create a poster on how to be polite

Mackenzie Thorpe

Mackenzie Thorpe is an artist (he creates paintings and sculptures). The Queen has two of Mackenzie's paintings. He has also met the Queen.

Watch the video clip of Mackenzie Thorpe talking about the Queen...

Questions to ask:

Mackenzie says the Queen made everyone around her happy with a warm smile. Can you turn to the person next to you and smile to make them happy? How do you feel when someone smiles at you?

Mackenzie has painted two pictures for the Queen. If you were painting a picture for the Queen, what would you paint and why?

Follow-up activity ideas:

- ★ Try to smile at people you see today to spread a little happiness
- ★ Paint a picture for the Queen

Ellie Goldstein

Ellie Goldstein is a British model, as well as advocate, dancer and performer. Ellie made history by being the first model with Down Syndrome to feature in huge campaigns with big brands such as Gucci and Adidas.

Watch the video clip of Ellie Goldstein talking about the Queen...

Questions to ask:

Ellie described the Queen as a fashion icon who looks fabulous. The Queen often wears hats and always has a handbag. What is your favourite outfit or piece of clothing? What do you like to wear?

Ellie remembers Harry and Meghan's wedding in 2019 and enjoyed watching the Queen and Royal Family all dressed up and celebrating. Can you remember or think of any events featuring the Royal Family?

(Possible answers: Prince Philip's death 2021, Harry and Meghan's wedding 2019, the Queen's Sapphire Jubilee celebrating 65 years on the throne 2017, the Queen's 90th birthday 2016)

Follow-up activity ideas:

- ★ Use the internet to research the Queen's outfits at special occasions. Choose your favourite and explain what you like about it.
- ★ Design a new hat or handbag for the Queen that she could wear to celebrate her Platinum Jubilee.

Dame Jane Goodall

Dame Jane Goodall is a conservationist and expert in chimpanzees. She studied chimpanzees for many years in Tanzania and discovered that they make and use tools. Jane has met the Queen three times.

Watch the video clip of Dame Jane Goodall talking about the Queen...

Questions to ask:

Jane remembers when she was 18 years old hearing on the wireless (a radio) the news that King George the 6th had died. **Do you listen to the radio? How do you learn about the news?**

(Possible answers: radio, TV, via the internet on mobile phone, tablet or laptop, programmes such as Newsround, newspapers)

The first time Jane met the Queen was at a debutante ceremony. Have you heard of a debutante before? Debutante comes from the word debut. In the past, a debutante was a young lady who attended special events and parties to 'make her social debut' in other words to start socialising as an adult. It also involved dressing up, and curtsying to the Queen. The last ceremony took place in 1958. **Can you do a curtsy or a bow?**

Which animals does Jane mention in the video? (Elephants, chimpanzees and corgis) Jane is an expert in chimpanzees and the Queen is very fond of corgis (a type of dog). **What is your favourite animal and why?**

Follow-up activity ideas:

- ★ Jane studied chimpanzees and the Queen's is very fond of corgis. Use the internet or books to find out more about the Queen's corgis or your favourite animal. Present your findings to the class.
- ★ Jane received a special medal from the Queen, a CBE for her services to science. Can you design and create a special medal for people who contribute to your school community?