

Year 5 – Significant Historical Figures & Their Impact on Britain Then & Now.

Who?	When?	What?/Why?/Key Knowledge & Understanding
Christopher Columbus	1451-1506	Columbus was an Italian explorer and navigator who completed four voyages across the Atlantic Ocean sponsored by the Catholic Monarchs of Spain, opening the way for the widespread European exploration and colonization of the Americas. His expeditions were the first known European contact with the Caribbean, Central America, and South America [cross-curricular link with previous Geography topic].
Ignatius Sancho	1720-1780	Full name - Charles Ignatius Sancho was a British abolitionist, writer and composer. Born on a slave ship in the Atlantic, Sancho was sold into slavery in the Spanish colony of New Granada. After his parents died, Sancho's owner took the two-year-old orphan to Britain and gifted him to three Greenwich sisters, where he remained for eighteen years. Unable to bear being a servant to them, Sancho ran away to the Montagu House in Blackheath where John Montagu, 2nd Duke of Montagu taught him how to read and encouraged Sancho's budding interest in literature. After spending some time as a butler in the household, Sancho left and started his own business as a shopkeeper, while also starting to write and publish various essays, plays and books. Sancho quickly became involved in the British abolitionist movement, which sought to outlaw the slave trade and slavery itself. Sancho's status as a male property-owner meant he was legally qualified to vote in a general election, a right he exercised in 1774 and 1780, becoming the first known British African to have voted in Britain. A book - <i>The Letters of the Late Ignatius Sancho, an African</i> – was published two years after his death, being the first published letter collection by a writer of African descent.
Queen Victoria	1819-1901	Victoria (Alexandrina Victoria) was Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland from 20 June 1837 until her death in 1901. Her reign of 63 years and 216 days was longer than that of any previous British monarch and is known as the Victorian era. She has only recently been 'beaten' by Queen Elizabeth II. The Victorian Era was a period of industrial, political, scientific, and military change within the UK. After the deaths of her father and grandfather in 1820, she was raised under close supervision by her mother and her supervisor. She inherited the throne aged 18 after her father's three elder brothers died. Victoria was a constitutional monarch
Amy Johnson	1903-1941	Amy Johnson CBE was a pioneering English pilot who was the first woman to fly solo from London to Australia. Flying solo or with her husband, Jim Mollison, she set many long-distance records during the 1930s. She flew in the Second World War as a part of the Air Transport Auxiliary and disappeared during a ferry flight. The cause of her death has been a subject of discussion over many years.

Remember to teach the key dates and how to put in Chronological order correctly.

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Additional things to think about, discuss, observe & explore:					
Why are there no photos of some of these individuals, only paintings? Or only black and white photographs?	Chronology regarding paintings, black & white photography, colour photography.	What was the impact of this individual in THEIR OWN TIME and what continued impact can we see TODAY?	Could we draw any comparisons between Queen Victoria and Queen Elizabeth II?	What big changes happened during the Victorian Era that still impact us today?	Impact of factors such as race, ethnicity, gender, status and background (royalty, poor background, etc).



Christopher Columbus



Ignatius Sancho



Queen Victoria



Amy Johnson

Key Vocabulary:	
race	explorer
gender	composer
photography	abolitionist
portrait	Constitutional monarch