

John Lennon Assembly Play

Imagine ... a young lad from Liverpool by the name of John Lennon. Imagine the love and peace the man inspired. Imagine the shock when he was lost to us forever. Imagine ... and come with us for a trip down memory lane, as if it was ... Yesterday.

This class play, written by Sue Russell, for class of 30, comes with suggested props, music and numbered seating plan – so it is ready to deliver, with minimum stress to the teacher! It is entertaining and educational at the same time – covering all the key teaching points (from the UK QCA documents).

(Also available for this unit on Famous People of the 20th Century, set of 5 guided reading play scripts plus quizzes - on Martin Luther, Nelson Mandela, Mahatma Gandhi, John Lennon and Prominent Women of the 20th Century: Helen Keller, Anne Frank, Marie Curie, Mother Theresa, Margaret Thatcher and Princess Diana - see Guided Reading Play Scripts Section of www.plays-r-ussell.com)

SAMPLE TEXT

John Lennon Assembly

Sean: Yeah. Like my brother here, Julian – we're both now 'following in our dad's footsteps'. What an inspiration!

Narrator: Yes, he was that, all right. Him and his mates here.

Paul, Ringo and George: (together) The Beatles!

Narrator: They took the music world by storm! And the rest of us too. Nobody alive in the 1960s and 70s could have not been affected in some way by 'the Fab Four'.

Parents: Noisy good for nothings. My ear drums will never be the same!

Narrator: 'Course, *not everyone* was a Beatles fan. There was this thing called the generation gap.

Beatles (together) Boring old fuddy duddies!

Narrator: Now, now! Let's not forget where we started.

Cast: (singing) All we are saying ... is give peace a chance.

John: Yeah. But I wasn't talking *their* (pointing at parents) kind of peace. I was talking *world* peace, man!

TEACHING 'COVERAGE'

15. Unit 20 John Lennon Assembly

- (i) Family Background
- (ii) Timeline: 1950s
- (iii) Fashions: Greasers, Preppies and Teddy Boys
- (iv) Timeline: 1960s
- (v) Formation of Beatles
- (vi) McCartney/Lennon rivalry
- (vii) Marriage to Yoko Ono
- (viii) Peace work
- (ix) Conflict with Nixon administration
- (x) Death
- (xi) What we remember him for

MUSIC

1. Power to the People (Lennon)

2. Beatles (singles) - She loves you

- I want to hold your hand
- Ticket to ride
- Help
- We can work it out
- Yellow submarine
- All you need is love
- Hey Jude
- Get Back
- Let it Be
- Yesterday

3. Give Peace a Chance (Lennon)

4. Imagine (Lennon)

5. Love (Lennon)