



UNIVERSITY OF
LEICESTER

Our Golden Beginnings

Key Stage 2 Learning Resources



Name: _____

Date: _____

'OUR GOLDEN BEGINNINGS'

Information Sheet

The story of the University of Leicester

a.

The idea for the **University** of Leicester was first put across in the 1880s. In 1912 Dr. Astley Clarke suggested the idea again. After the First World War broke out in 1914, the plan for a **university** was pushed back. In 1917 the idea of the University as a **living memorial** was suggested, to remember those who had lost their lives while fighting in the First World War.

b.

In 1918 the First World War ended, not long after the **University war memorial** plan was created. The plan was a way of **fundraising** to collect money and other gifts to help fund a university. These donations included money, books, furniture etc. Therefore, the university was built up by the Leicester community.

c.

The donations by the people of Leicester are listed in **The Golden Book**, which lists the people and the donations and **commemorates** those who helped provide higher education. In 1919, Thomas Fielding Johnson bought a hospital as the school's first building. The university was finally opened to students in 1921, with nine students in the first ever class. In 1922 the **Bazaar and Fete** was set up to help raise more money and gifts for the University.

'OUR GOLDEN BEGINNINGS'

Information Sheet

People who donated

Profile 1



Dr Elizabeth Wilks

(1861-1956)

Elizabeth was a Doctor of Medicine and suffragette, she **donated £5** in 1922 to the University. Elizabeth was a female doctor at time when it was unusual for women to be doctors. As a **suffragette**, Elizabeth was involved in the fight for women's rights.

Profile 2



Annie Clephan

(1854-1930)

An early supporter of the University, she **gave £200** to the University of Leicester, as well as donating many books to the University Library. Annie joined the Women's suffrage movement(campaigning for women's right) and want to change the women's position in the society. She also built an After-care institution for children with disabilities.

'OUR GOLDEN BEGINNINGS'

Information Sheet

People who donated

Profile 3



Thomas Hatton
(1876-1943)

Mr. Hatton **donated more than 2,000 rare books** to the University of Leicester in 1920. He published the Nonesuch Dickens (a very popular edition of Charles Dickens) with his friends and became an expert on the works of Charles Dickens.

Profile 4



Gertrude Vincent
(1877-1965)

Gertrude was vice-president of the university until 1935. Gertrude planned the **Bazaar & Fete** in 1922 to help collect money and other gifts to support the University. She also donated many books including 'The Dictionary of Classical Antiquities' to the university in 1921.

'OUR GOLDEN BEGINNINGS'

Interesting words


- ✿ **Bazaar and Fete-** A market and fair to collecting money for a purpose.
- ✿ **Commemorate-** Way of remembering a person or event, such as a public ceremony, a statue or a special building.
- ✿ **Contribute-** To give something, such as money or books to achieve something together with other people.
- ✿ **Fundraising-** Collecting money for a charity.
- ✿ **Merchant-** A person whose job is to buy and sell products in large amounts.
- ✿ **Memorial-** A statue or structure to remember a person or event (e.g. First World War).
- ✿ **Promote-** To advertise something.
- ✿ **Suffragette-** a woman fighting for the women's rights movement in the early 1900's
- ✿ **University-** A place of study where you go after school to learn more about the subject you interested in.

'OUR GOLDEN BEGINNINGS'

Founding a university

After you have read the story of how the University of Leicester came to be, imagine Jack wants to set up his own university. How would we help Jack to fund and set up his own university?

Jack is a boots **merchant** in Leicester and has a wife and two children. Their life was happy until the **First World War** happened. Jack saw a lot people lose their families and friends during the war. Jack wants to **contribute** and remember those people, so he decides to set up a **university** as living memorial.

 **First World War:** It was a global war started in 1914 and was fought by Germany and Austria on one side and Britain, France, Russia and other allies on the other, it ended in 1918.

Activity 1

Help Jack to start setting up a university by promoting and fundraising.

Put the boxes in the correct order. Hint: Use the information sheet



DONATION FROM
PEOPLE



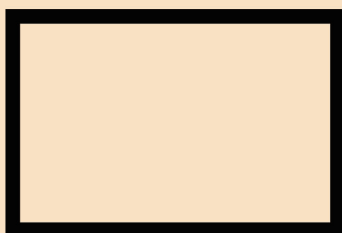
UNIVERSITY BUILDING



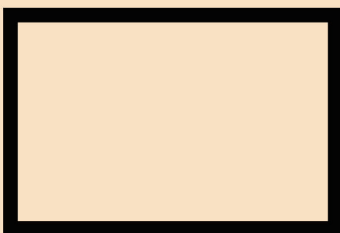
PLAN OF UNIVERSITY



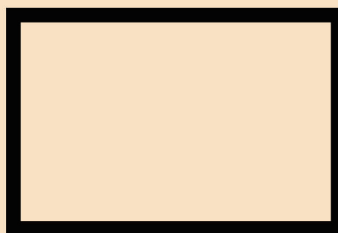
OPEN TO PUBLIC
(First students & staff)



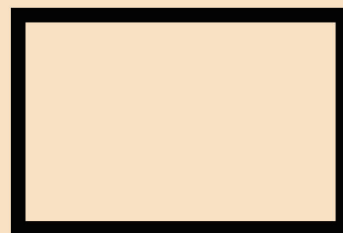
STEP1



STEP 2



STEP 3



STEP 4

Activity 2

Jack decides to write a newspaper article for the local press to **promote** the idea of a **university**. Here is an example below from 1917.



Materials Needed:

Markers, crayons, colored pencils - whatever colors you want to use and your incredible ideas!



WEDNESDAY. NOVEMBER 14. 1917.

To these proposals, and this advice, we take no exception; but, if the beginning and end of all our efforts to commemorate the devotion of the Leicester and Leicestershire men who fall in the great war is 'good' art, it will fall a long way short of what ought to be done.

and a great deal about war memorials lately. The hope has been expressed Leicestershire village will have its own war memorial; these in addition to the county memorial to be erected in Leicester. We have been lectured for the necessity for these memorials being artistic, and conforming to the accords of good taste. To these proposals, and this advice, we take no exception; but, if the beginning and end of all our efforts to commemorate the devotion of the Leicestershire men who fall in the great war is 'good' art, it will fall a long way short of what ought to be done. There is no need to argue the necessity for adequate memorials for the dependents of those who have paid the great sacrifice. That responsibility, will be discharged to the full, and does not fall into the category of memorial. So that at the moment monuments hold the field, and we feel bound to say alone, no matter how gifted the designer or craftsmen, they will not be adequate.

Something more is required; something of practical utility which is in us. Along this line of thought one is led inevitably to the need of Leicester and the shire- a University College, the stepping-stone to a University itself. Our primary, secondary, and technical schools are on our own with the best that exist in other parts of the country, and advanced education already before the war we sadly lagged behind. When peace comes, unless we are up and doing more, we shall be left behind. To thresh out the details consider ways and means, and co-ordinated effort between borough and county, there can be no doubt.

Something more is required; something of practical utility, yet ministering to the highest which is in us. Along this line of thought one is led inevitably to the greatest educational need of Leicester and the shire- a University College, the stepping-stone to a University itself.

Activity 2

Help Jack to write an article about fundraising for a university.

Now start to write and draw your thoughts into the newspaper article by using your imagination and creativity!



Think about what a newspaper article should look like.

What kinds of information and words can attract people to donate and support the university? E.g. an interesting title, nice pictures, word use etc.

LOCAL DAILY NEWS

TITLE:

DATE:

Section 3

After the article was published, many people were willing to help the university in different ways, such as donating books or money.
Help Jack to connect the right person to the right donations.



Connect the dots below with pen or pencil, to match the right answers.
Need more clues? Check out the information sheet for some hints!



THOMAS HATTON



GERTRUDE VINCENT



ANNIE CLEPHAN



ELIZABETH WILKS



MONEY



RARE BOOKS



BAZZAR and FETE



MONEY

£ 200

Nonesuch
Dickens

BAZZAR and FETE




XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
XXXXXXXXXXXX
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
XXXXXXXXXXXX
XXXXXXXX

£ 5

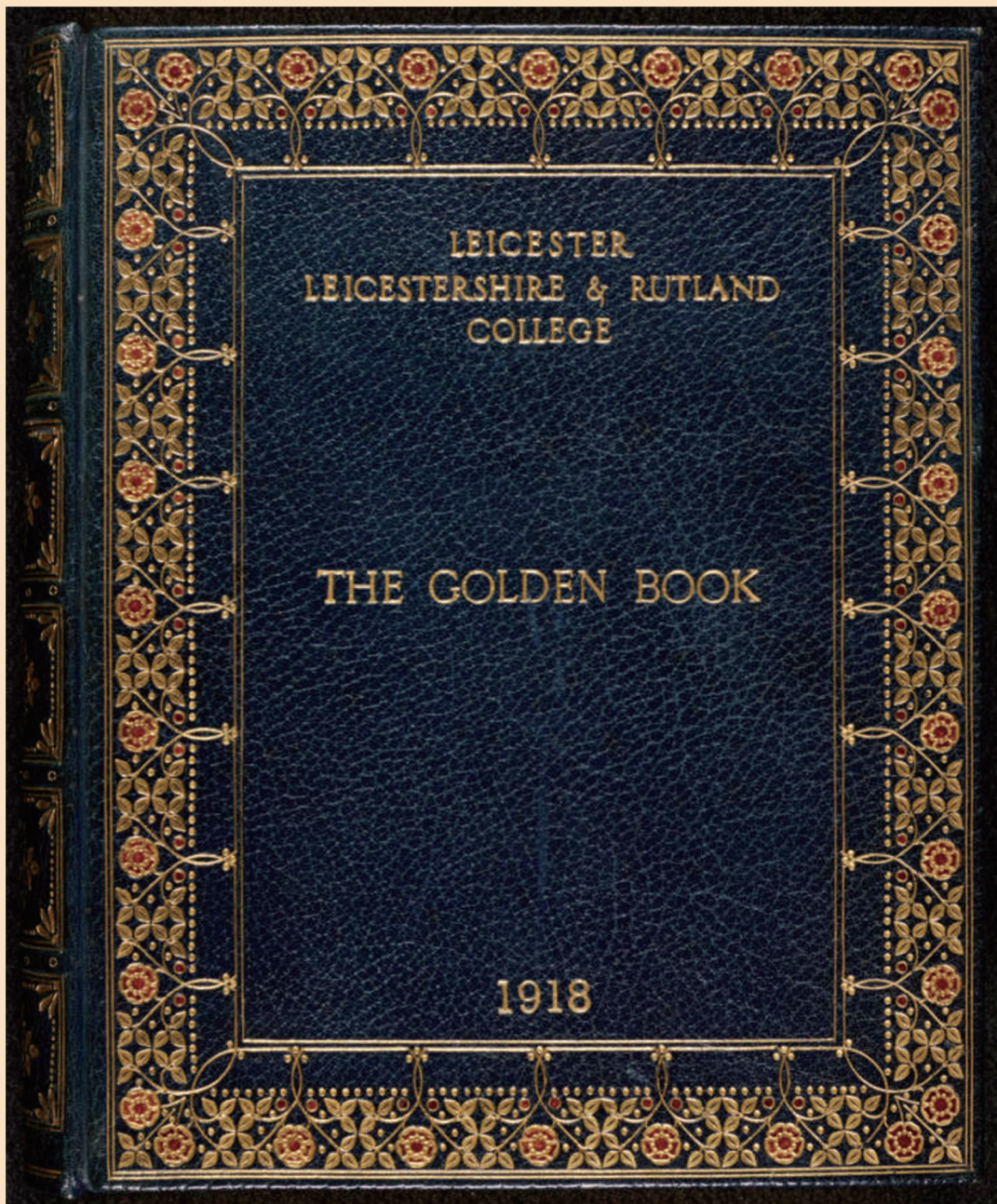
Activity 4

Well done! You have founded a University.

*Jack now wants to thank the community of Leicester by creating a book called
'The Golden Book'*

 *The Golden Book was created in 1918 to commemorate those who donated to the university with different gifts.*

Find out more about The Golden Book: <https://leicester.omeka.net/exhibits/show/our-golden-beginnings/beginnings-of-university/the-golden-book>



University of Leicester Archives, ULA/HIS/FOU/1

Activity 4

*Draw your own **Golden Book**! Use the original Golden Book (last page) as an example, and create your own book cover and contents (in the box below)*



Materials Needs:

Markers, crayons, colored pencil-whatever colors you want to use and your amazing creativity!

Well done!

You have successfully founded a university by helping Jack complete the tasks!



Activity 5

From the past to the present

Now that you have created your Golden Book, answer the questions below based on your experience at school.

a. Who would you add to your Golden Book? (E.g. Could be a school friend)

I think...

b. What did they do for you? (E.g. helped you to learn something)

c. If you were in the Golden Book what would you give to the school today?

I will give...

d. How does it make you feel about what you learnt about the University?

I feel...

Activity 6

Further Challenges

Explore the University of Leicester digital collections online and pick out something that is of interest to you via the link below:

<http://specialcollections.le.ac.uk/digital/collection/p16445coll9/search/page/1>

OR Look at the images below and pick one that you find interesting

Explain why this is interesting to you? E.g. Soldiers in WW1

Bonus: Can you find anything else about this topic?



Possibly 1/5th Battalion Leicestershire Regiment
before leaving for France



Group of unidentified nurses, World War I



Visit of tank to Leicester, January 1918



5th Northern General Hospital, F Ward,
Christmas 1915