



A Home Learning Branch for

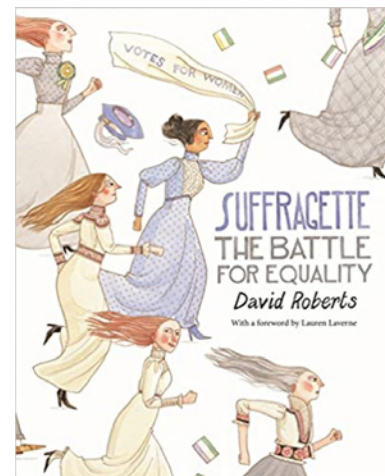
# Suffragette, The Battle for Equality by David Roberts



## Spelling Investigations

- *communicate community controversy government identity prejudice.* How might you remember to spell each of these words?
- Organise the following words into 'spelt -tial' and 'spelt -cial': *official, special, partial, confidential, essential, financial, confidential, consequential, influential.* What are the root words? Is there a rule to remember which spelling is which?

How many of the words above can you use in your writing?



## Discussion questions

- What does it mean to live in a democratic society?
- Why was it so important that women be granted suffrage?
- What were the key differences between the suffragettes and suffragists?
- Were any of the facts in the book surprising? If so, what were they?
- What way do you feel is the best way to bring about change?

## Writing opportunities

1. You receive a letter from a suffragist appealing for help in writing to William Gladstone, the Prime Minister in 1884, to request that the bill for women to be given the vote be read in parliament. Can you write the letter, taking care to use a formal tone?
2. The matchgirls from the Bryant and May factory have gone on strike! They need their voices to be heard. Come up with a slogan and then write in role as a lawyer to help stand up for their rights.
3. Imagine you were Christabel Pankhurst and in prison reflecting on the events that occurred at the Free Trade Hall in Manchester. Write a diary entry in role as Christabel remembering to use standard English.
4. Suffragists and Suffragettes: both groups wanted the same outcome; each group had different views on how to go about things. Can you write a formal balanced argument showing that both sides had their reasons for making the decisions they made?
5. You are a journalist for The Daily Sketch. News has just come in of a tragic incident at the Epsom Derby: the serious injury of Emily Wilding Davidson and jockey, Herbert Jones. Write a newspaper report in the style of the time.
6. What issues need campaigning for today? Are there any laws that need changing today? Or creating? Create a slogan and persuasive speech for your own campaign.

## Wider curriculum links

**History (Y6 British History):** A study of an aspect or theme in British history that extends pupils' chronological knowledge beyond 1066; changes in an aspect of social history; a significant turning point in British history.

## Key vocabulary

How many of these words do you know? can you find the meaning of new words?

equality  
election  
suffrage  
Suffragist  
Suffragette  
union  
protest  
demonstration  
placard  
deny  
denied  
martyr  
obituary

## Further reading

*The Usborne Guide to Politics*

*Secret Suffragette* by Barbara Mitchellhill

*Emmeline Pankhurst Little People, BIG DREAMS*

*Fantastically Great Women who changed the World and Fantastically Great Women who made History* by Kate Pankhurst

Want to find out more? Why not download the full Planning Sequence on our website and access the Learning Log video sessions?



1 Consider the word, democracy. What does it mean? What does it mean for us that we live in a democracy? Can you think of any other related words? which language does the word derive from?

democracy → democratic

Your help is needed:

Dear Esteemed Citizen,

I write to you in order to appeal for help in persuading Gladstone to allow the bill to be read that suffrage be granted for all. Your engagement in this matter could bring about the greatest of change.

Sincerely yours,

M. Morris esq.

Dear Sir,

We are writing to you in order to consider our plea; this of allowing the bill to be read in parliament..

## 2 DEEDS NOT WORDS

Ever heard the saying, 'actions speak louder than words?' Well this is what the Suffragettes in the Women's Social and Political Union (WSPU) formed by Emmeline Pankhurst believed. It was time to take action! And one cause they supported was the plight of the matchgirls...

Try using combinations of pairs of these nouns and joining them with or, not or and to create a slogan to help support the matchgirls:

hearts      courage      voices  
love      souls  
minds      freedom      choice  
hate      hope      sorrow

Use the **subjunctive mood** to write your lawyer's speech. Here's something to get you started:

If we were to help the plight of these poor wretched individuals, then we choose to speak for all. We urge you hear their voices...

### Choice and freedom for all!

## 3 The Question! The Question! Answer the Question!

What a day you've had: first you couldn't get a seat where you'd planned and had to hastily cut down your banner then you were arrested!

### Scissor a Slogan

The question that Christabel Pankhurst and Annie Kenney wanted to ask was on a banner and read:

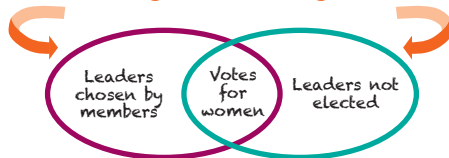
### Will the Liberal Party Give Votes for Women?

But it was too big. Can you cut it down to create a slogan?

Dear Diary,

Today was quite a day for the WSPU! I am actually writing this in a prison cell. We have known for some time that the Liberal Party were planning to start their campaign at the Free Trade Hall today in Manchester. Annie and I ventured...

## 4 Suffragists and Suffragettes



Compare suffragists with Suffragettes. Sort the key differences in how they campaigned onto a Venn Diagram.



Use leading phrases:

on the contrary  
it was believed  
despite the fact  
although it could be said  
with reflection one may state  
with hindsight  
nevertheless it could not be condoned

## 5 First Martyr for votes for women

Find out what happened to Emily Wilding Davidson. Use eye-witness accounts to piece together the events:

No-one seemed to realise what she was doing until it was too late!

I am deeply saddened by this tragic event. It was horrifying to watch.

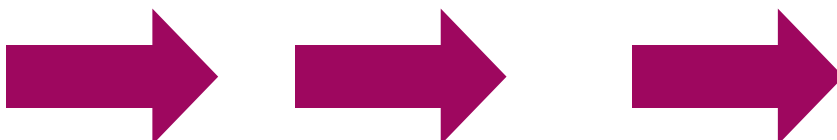
The poor soul appeared to be clutching something - a handkerchief perhaps - in her left hand.

Yesterday, on the 4th June 1913, a large crowd gathered to witness one of the most celebrated races of the year: The Epsom Derby. Unfortunately, the race was brought to a sudden halt when...

A spokesperson for the King, who witnessed the incident, made the following statement on behalf of the monarch: I am deeply saddened by this tragic event. It was horrifying to watch.

## 6 What will you campaign about? Will you give a voice to others that might not otherwise be heard?

Choose your cause      Create your slogan      Craft your campaign speech



My campaign is for the rights of...to be heard and my slogan is 'Change is needed.'

