THE JACOBITE REBELLION 1745: SCHOOLS HANDOUT

Who were the Jacobites?

The Jacobites were people who supported the Catholic King James Stewart II who lost the British throne in 1688 to Protestant King William III (William of Orange or King Billy).

In 1745 Prince Charles Stewart, the grandson of James II, returned to Scotland to lead a Jacobite Uprising. He wanted to take back the British throne.

Prince Charles Stewart or ‘Bonny Prince Charlie’ and a picture of him in Carlisle

The Siege of CARLISLE

Carlisle was the border fortress and gateway to England. Prince Charles and his army surrounded Carlisle on 13th November. After 2 days the elderly soldiers defending Carlisle Castle surrendered. Only one soldier died.

The victory provided Prince Charles with guns, ammunition, 200 horses and a base in England. Prince Charles then marched towards London, but he only got as far as Derby.

By December the Jacobite army had retreated back to Carlisle, pursued by the Duke of Cumberland (Butcher Cumberland) who had been sent by his father, King George II, to defeat the Jacobites. Two days later Prince Charles fled for Scotland. Only 380 men were left to hold the city.

The Duke of Cumberland’s army laid siege to Carlisle for 9 days battering the Castle with cannonballs from guns brought up from Whitehaven Harbour. On 30 December the Jacobite garrison was forced to surrender. Most of the Jacobites were killed during the siege or later executed in Carlisle and Brampton.

Carlisle Castle and The Duke of Cumberland’s soldiers defeating the Jacobites at Culloden
Jacobite Signs and Symbols
After the defeat of Prince Charles at Culloden in Scotland the Jacobites had to be more secret. They used codes, symbols and emblems to show support for the Jacobite cause. For example: the white rose, bees (signifying loyalty), as well as butterflies and moths (signifying the return of the soul). Other common Jacobite symbols include birds, compasses, crowns and oak leaves. The symbols could be found on glasses, fans, waistcoats and plates.

The wearing of kilts was banned so Jacobites started to wear tartan coats and waistcoats to show their support.

![Jacobite symbols: A white rose, a butterfly engraved on a glass and a tartan coat.](image)

Carlisle Historical Pageant, 22 August 2015: The Jacobites
Children taking part in workshops are invited by Carlisle City Council to join the Carlisle Pageant parade on 22 August. Prism Arts Artists will be on hand with Jacobite costumes and your puppets on the day. More information to follow.

![Carlisle Historical Pageant, 22 August 2015: The Jacobites](image)