Knowledge Organiser

Fantastic Florence



Florence Nightingale is a famous British nurse who lived from 1820-1910. She helped to make hospitals more sanitary places and wrote books about how to be a good nurse.

Much of what we know about clean, organised hospital conditions today is thanks to Florence's hard work and research. She began her nursing career during the Crimean War and campaigned for better hospital conditions for the wounded soldiers there.

She is considered the founder of modern nursing.

Timeline of Florence Nightingale

12th May 1820	Born in Florence, Italy.
1851	Goes to Germany to train as a nurse.
1853	Runs a hospital for women in London.
1853	The Crimean War begins.
4th November 1854	Florence and 38 nurses go to Scutari Hospital in Turkey.
1856	The Crimean War ends.
1859	Florence writes her book called 'Notes on Nursing'.
1860	The Nightingale School of Nursing opens.
1883	Queen Victoria gives Florence the Royal Red Cross.
1907	Florence is the first woman to be awarded the Order of Merit.
1910	Florence Nightingale dies aged 90.



Vocabulary/Terminology

Florence Nightingale: The nurse who became famous for her care of the soldiers in the Crimean War.

Crimean War: The war from 1853—1856 between Russia, England, France and Turkey.

Scutari Hospital: The military hospital in Crimea (Turkey) where Florence worked.

National Health Service (NHS): The health service we have today.

Order of Merit: award given to Florence by King Edward VII. She was the first woman to be given this.

Royal Red Cross: An award given to Florence by Queen Victoria in 1883.

The Lady with the Lamp: The name given to Florence by the soldiers in Scutari Hospital.

Victorian Times: a time in history when Queen Victoria ruled.

Key Facts

- Florence Nightingale was born in Florence, Italy, which is how she got her name!
- Florence helped to treat wounded soldiers during the Crimean War, and made sure the hospital was clean. The soldiers were very grateful for Florence's kindness.
- During the Crimean War, she was nicknamed 'The Lady with the Lamp' because she would work all night to make sure the soldiers had what they needed, like water and warm blankets.
- In 1883 Florence met Queen Victoria, who awarded her the Royal Red Cross medal to thank her for all of her hard work as a military nurse.
- Thanks to Florence's work and achievements, people's view of nursing was transformed and it became a respectable profession for women.
- The International Red Cross (which was founded thanks to her work) awards the Florence Nightingale Medal to nurses who have given exceptional care to people who are sick and wounded, in war or peace.

