

Willerby Carr Lane Primary School - History

Topic: Siege of Hull

Year: 2

Strand: events beyond living memory

What should I already know?

- Our queen is Queen Elizabeth II
- The Royal Family live in London, the capital city.
- Hull is an important city for trading

What will I know by the end of the unit?




Why did the Siege take place and why was it important?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • King Charles I was arguing with Parliament about religion. • The King travelled to York to make sure his people were still loyal and then he started to move to Hull. • Parliament's power reached Hull before King Charles could get there and they barred the gates against him. • This was the start of the 1st Civil War • Nobody had ever denied the King entrance to the city before
Why did King Charles want control over Hull?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He was the king. It was his divine right to rule over everybody. • He needed to secure Hull as an important trading city • Queen Henrietta Maria needed a safe place to dock from her travels. • Hull had lots of weapons left over from previous battles.
Why did the Royalists retreat?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • King Charles was not allowed into Hull, Sir John Hotham barred him at the Beverley gate • The people of Hull had strong defenses with earthworks. • They opened the sluices and the River Humber flooded the land. This happened twice. The defenders had warships. • The defenders in Hull drove them away with gunfire. • Parliamentarians raided Royalist headquarters. • The Royalists were too far away from the town walls. • There were lots of battles across the country but in the end King Charles I lost the English Civil War.

Vocabulary

defend	protect yourself against an attacker
divine right of Kings	Kings rule over everybody and they only have to answer to God
earthworks	a large bank of soil made by people to defend
English Civil War	the war between Charles I and Parliament.
fortifications	a defensive wall
gun emplacements	guns were extremely heavy and couldn't be moved easily. They had to sit in one place.
head quarters	where the commander stayed.
high treason	betraying your country by attacking the king.
loyal	supporting somebody
Parliament	a large group of people who help the king to run the country.
Parliamentarian	a person who is against the King but supports Parliament.
Royalist	a person who supports the King and is against Parliament.
siege	the attackers surround a town making sure that they can't get any more food, support or supplies
sluices	a sliding gate which controls the flow of water
surrender	give up



Key Dates / Timeline		
Date	Event	Description
March 1642	King Charles moves to York.	King Charles I and Parliament were arguing about which religion should dominate in England. The King left London and travelled north. He stayed in York to make sure that he still had support amongst his northern people.
April 1642	King Charles travels to Hull.	The King travelled to Hull as he wanted to control the town. Hull was a major port with trading links to Europe and the site of an arsenal of weapons stored after the recent wars against Scotland. King Charles was also anxious to secure a safe landing place for Queen Henrietta Maria, who had left England the previous and was coming home. But Parliament had taken precautions to secure Hull for itself by putting Sir John Hotham in charge and told the town not to surrender.
22/23 rd April 1642	King Charles is not allowed into the City of Hull.	Charles arrived at Beverley gate but the town gates were barred against him. After several hours of discussions, King Charles rode away to York. The following day, he pronounced Sir John Hotham guilty of high treason.
1 st week of July 1642	The King returns to Beverley	The King returned to Hull with 4,000 soldiers and set up his court at Beverley. His soldiers stayed around the village of Anlaby. Parliament had moved most of the weapons to London, but enough was left for the town's defence; the people of Hull had also strengthened its defences with new earthworks.
6 th July 1642	The River Humber floods	The sluices were opened and the banks of the River Humber broken to flood the land for 2 miles around the town.
10 th July 1642	Royalists were driven away	A Royalist raiding party approached Hull to intimidate the defenders by burning down buildings outside the town walls. In the first military action of the English Civil War, the Royalists were driven away by gunfire from the defenders of Hull.
Mid-late July 1642	King Charles abandons the siege of Hull.	Parliamentarians arrived by sea with 1,500 troops to direct Hull's defence. The flooding of the surrounding land made it difficult for the Royalists. Meldrum directed attacks on the Royalists including in a night raid on Royalist headquarters at Anlaby (the attackers approached by raft across the flooded land). The Royalists were taken by surprise and King Charles abandoned the siege of Hull.
2 nd September 1643	Royalist troops return to Hull	Royalist troops occupied the towns and villages around Hull and began constructing earthworks and gun emplacements to besiege the town. The bombardment of Hull began on 2 September but was largely ineffective because the Royalist siege works were too far from the town walls. The main Royalist fort was captured and destroyed in a Parliamentary raid during the first week of the siege
14 th September 1643	The River Humber floods again	The sluices were opened and the banks of the River Humber were broken to flood the surrounding land, as had happened during the first siege of Hull in 1642. Parliamentary warships patrolled the Humber estuary, allowing supplies to be shipped in.
October 1643	Royalists attempted to storm the defences	Although outlying fortifications were captured, the Royalists were driven back. Two days later, 1,500 Parliamentarians attacked the Royalist gun emplacements. They overran the Royalist gun emplacements and took several of their great siege cannons.
12 th October 1643	The siege of Hull is abandoned	The siege of Hull was abandoned and Royalist troops fell back to York.

Important figures	Image
<p>King Charles I (1600 – 1649). Charles Stuart was the King of England, Scotland and Ireland. He married Henrietta Maria of France. His father was King James I.</p>	
<p>Queen Henrietta Maria (1609 – 1669) Henrietta Maria was the daughter of King Henry IV of France. She married King Charles I in 1625 – she was 15 years old.</p>	
<p>Parliament A large group of people who help the King to make decisions. During the Siege of Hull, people of the Parliament did not agree with the king. This was unusual.</p>	
<p>Sir John Hotham (1589-1645) Sir John Hotham was a member of the English Parliament and the Governor of Hull. He denied entry to the King – the first act of the English Civil War.</p>	