



SchoolMAte

Teachers' notes



City Communities

Key Stage Two National Curriculum links



Stories: Packed Off to Work in America, 1684

THEME: 'CHILDREN AT WORK'

NC Link -

- ▶ **HISTORY 2a** “Pupils should be taught about the social, cultural, religious and ethnic diversity of the societies studied in Britain and the wider world.”
- ▶ **ENGLISH En1** Speaking and Listening
- ▶ **ENGLISH En3** Writing 9a “The range of purposes for writing should include: to imagine and explore feelings and ideas, focusing on creative uses of language...”





City Communities

Key Stage Two Worksheet (1 of 2)



Stories: Packed Off to Work in America, 1684

THEME: 'CHILDREN AT WORK'

Click on the 'Stories' button on the City Communities page, then on 'Packed Off to Work in America, 1684'



Three orphan boys, William Gentleman, William Jones and Thomas Hathorne were living rough on the streets of the City in 1684. Many children, who had no-one to look after them, ended up in the same situation.

However, a scheme had been set up to send street children to America as servants. In 1684, the Lord Mayor, offered the boys a deal. They could go to America with a new master, John Lightfoot, or be punished. This story follows their journey from London streets to Virginia and life on the plantations.

Try and find the answers to the following questions.

- ▶ Why are the boys living in the streets of London?
- ▶ What would have happened to the boys if they had been around today?
- ▶ Why were the Mayor and Aldermen of London worried about the boys?
- ▶ What do the Mayor and Aldermen do?
- ▶ Who was going to take the boys to Virginia in America?
- ▶ How might they have been punished if they had stayed in London?





City Communities

Key Stage Two Worksheet (2 of 2)



Stories: Packed Off to Work in America, 1684

THEME: 'CHILDREN AT WORK'

Click on the 'Stories' button on the City Communities page, then on 'Packed Off to Work in America, 1684'



Now you have the background to the boys you can explore their lives further.

Scroll through the story and click on either of the links for 'on board ship' or 'living and working in early Virginia'.

Using the information given **write one of the following describing your experiences:**

- ▶ a diary
- ▶ a letter
- ▶ a newspaper report

Think about what it would be like to live on the streets, to be on a ship for the first time or far from home.

