

Investigating the Sealants of the Declaration of Arbroath

Notes for Teachers

This resource supports P7/S1 students studying the Scottish Wars of Independence and is based on the Declaration of Arbroath, one of Scotland's most important historical documents held by the National Records of Scotland.

It consists of:

- An information sheet about the Declaration of Arbroath
- Information sheets about ten of the sealants of the Declaration
- A task sheet for students to complete

The task: to increase knowledge about the individuals who attached their seal to the Declaration by reading and analysing information.

This can be completed by individual students, pairs / small groups of students in class or as an individual homework task.

The resource will support Curriculum for Excellence in the following areas:

- Social studies; People, past events & societies
 - broaden understanding of the world by learning about human activities and achievements in the past and present
 - explore and evaluate different types of sources and evidence
 - learn how to explore and link periods, people and events in time and place
 - SOC 2-01a/3-01a; SOC 3-02a; SOC 2-03a; SOC 2-06a/3-06a
- Literacy; Reading
 - Understanding, analysing and evaluating; Finding and using information
 - LIT 2-13a/3-13a, 2-14a/3-14a, 2-16a/3-16a

Possible extension activities:

- Share or present findings in class to make comparisons between the individuals
- Locate on a map where the lands/areas are, linked to the individual barons or earls
- Create a social media profile for an individual baron or earl



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Notes for Teachers (continued)

Further sources of information (*links to other websites imply neither responsibility for, nor approval of, the information contained in those websites on the part of HES/NRS*):

- Short film about the Declaration of Arbroath, presented by Alistair Heather (The Social, BBC Scotland), 2020
 - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p0887h83>
- Short film about the Declaration of Arbroath, presented by Gavin Mitchell (Around Scotland: Scottish Wars of Independence, BBC Two), 2012
 - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p0117w8t>
- Education Scotland and Glasgow University: People of Medieval Scotland resource:
 - <https://education.gov.scot/improvement/learning-resources/broad-general-education-glasgow-university/>
- Education Scotland and Glasgow University: Declaration of Arbroath
 - <https://education.gov.scot/improvement/learning-resources/declaration-of-arbroath/>
- National Records of Scotland, resources about the Declaration and the seals
 - <https://webarchive.nrsotland.gov.uk/20170106024915/http://www.nas.gov.uk/about/090401.asp>
- National Records of Scotland 700th anniversary display booklet
 - <https://www.nrsotland.gov.uk/Declaration>
- McLennan, Neil (Ed.), *Conquered by No One; A People's History of the Declaration of Arbroath*, Old Baberton Clubhouse, 2020
- Holton, Graham S and Macdonald, Alasdair F. *Declaration of Arbroath Family History Project: report*. [Vowchurch, Hereford]: Foundation for Medieval Genealogy. Published on behalf of the Centre for Lifelong Learning, University of Strathclyde, 2020

The information about the sealants used in this resource has been kindly provided by the following students at the University of Strathclyde studying on the Postgraduate Diploma Course in Genealogical, Palaeographic and Heraldic studies, Genealogical Studies Postgraduate Programme: Amber Cooper, Mckenna Cooper, Joie Currie, Victoria Grainger, William Lyon-Dalberg-Acton, Gillian Molyneux, Margaret Parsons, Sian Salt and Paul Wainwright. This should be taken into consideration. Some views may differ.