Florence

HISTORY

Florence Nightingale was a nurse who saved many lives in the 19th century.

Florence was an unusual young woman

She didn't want to go to parties and get married. She wanted to be a nurse and help people. In 1851, Florence went to Germany and learned all about nursing. It was hard work, but she loved it.

1984

Lots of British soldiers went to fight in the Crimean War. Army hospitals were filled with injured men, Florence and a team of nurses went to help.

20 hours

Florence worked 20 hours a day to make the army hospital a cleaner and safer place. Soon, fewer men were dying.

The lady with the lamp

At night, Florence walked around the hospital. She talked to the injured soldiers and helped the men to write letters to their families. She carried a lamp and the soldiers called her 'The lady with the lamp'.

Heroine

When Florence returned to England, people called her a heroine because of her amazing work in the Crimean War. Queen Victoria wrote her a letter to say thank you. She continued to work hard in Britain to improve hospitals and she was given a medal called the Order of Merit. She was the first woman to receive this honour.