

**National Curriculum Reference:** Unit 4 Year 2.

**Aim:** To learn about the life of a famous Victorian.

**Objectives:** To explore different story 'openers' to create tension and mood.

**Assessment/Success Criteria:** To know the reasons why Grace Darling is famous. To understand the differences and similarities between Grace Darling and a modern day young woman.

**Teacher Notes:** You will find a simplified version of the text of the story of Grace Darling on activity sheet 1.

**Resources:** Internet access to [www.rnli.org.uk/shorething](http://www.rnli.org.uk/shorething), worksheet 1: Simplified story of Grace Darling and worksheet 2: Differences and Similarities.

**Key Vocabulary:**

Famous	Rescue	Victorian
Long ago	Brave	Northumberland

**Lesson Plan:**

Timing	Section	Activity
10 mins	Introduction	Explain to the children that they are going to find out about a famous person who lived a long time ago in Victorian times. Discuss what is meant by 'famous'. Ask the children to think about examples of famous people today? Can they think why they are famous?
5 mins 10 mins	Shared reading Questioning focus	Click on the website <a href="http://www.rnli.org.uk/shorething">www.rnli.org.uk/shorething</a> , give children copies of worksheet 1 and read the story of Grace Darling together. With their talking partner discuss: What was Grace Darling like? Was she brave, quiet, angry? What is the correct answer/s? Ask a child to give the answer, thumbs up if agree. Discuss the right and wrong answers. Repeat with a different question: What made the rescue difficult? Was it her shoes, the time of day, the weather?
10 mins	Paired work	Go back to the internet story and look at the first picture. Ask the children to work with their talking partner and describe the weather, writing key words or sentences.
15 mins	Activity-independent work	Look at worksheet 2. Which picture is Grace? What are the differences and similarities between the two young women?
10 mins	Plenary	Whole class discussion of worksheet 2.

## The story of Grace Darling

On the 7th September 1838, a paddle steamer was sailing from Hull to Dundee. It was a very stormy night.

Disaster struck off the coast of the Farne Islands, Northumberland.

The ship hit the rocks! Nearly all of the 60 passengers died. But 4 passengers and 5 crew members clung to nearby rocks.

When morning came, Grace heard the survivors calling for help. She rowed out with her father to rescue them.

William climbed onto the rocks to help the survivors. Grace waited in the boat.

The weather was so stormy that Grace had a difficult job keeping the boat away from the rocks.

One by one, the survivors were helped safely on board.

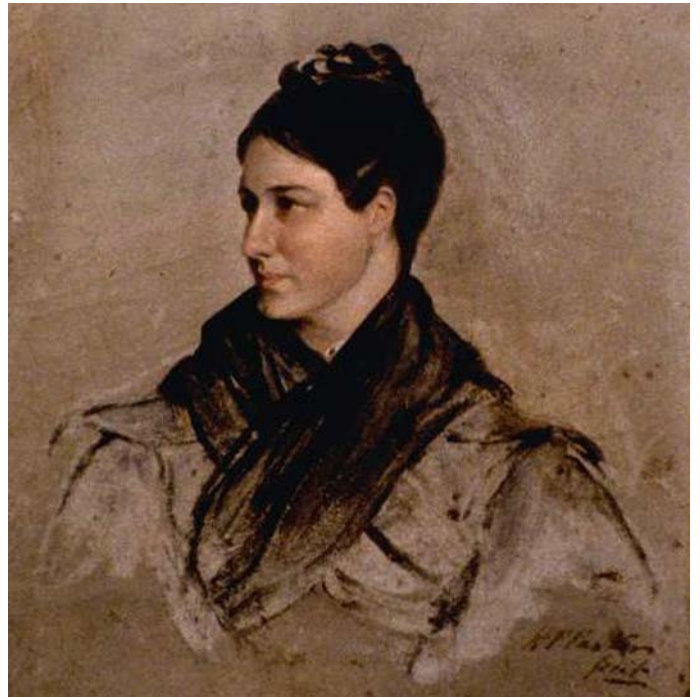
Grace and her father took them back to their lighthouse, and looked after them for 3 days, until the storm finally passed.

Grace became a heroine, even Queen Victoria heard about her bravery. Sadly Grace died four years later aged 26 but she is still remembered today.

Look at these two pictures of young women. Write in the box below what you think is similar about them and what you think is different.



Laura, aged 24, Teacher



Grace, aged 24