



This activity pack is designed to focus on women in the Second World War. This particular pack focuses on the Women's Auxiliary Corps India (WAC(I)) and the Women's Royal Indian Naval Service (W.R.I.N.S). This activity pack can be stand alone or used in conjunction with the activity pack available on the website.

The pack includes:

- A lesson
- Resource pack to support the lesson, including an application form and code cracking activity.

The session begins with young people answering the question on slide 3: how do you think women contributed to the war effort during the Second World War? Young people can create a mind map and these ideas can be discussed.

Slide 4 introduces the work of about the WAC(I) and W.R.I.N.S. The two questions can be discussion points with young people.

Slide 5 allows young people to reflect on the theme of migration. This allows for young people to share experiences and thoughts about migration.

Slide 6 shows a real application form that women who wanted to join the WAC(I) had to complete. The questions are designed to draw out the idea that well educated women could only apply and that it was a highly detailed process.

Slide 7 allows young people to place themselves in the role of a potential WAC(I) and to complete their own application form (available in the resource pack).

Slide 8 introduces one of the roles that about the WAC(I) and W.R.I.N.S. completed in their work. Young people decipher codes to learn secrets from the Second World War and facts about women in war (codes available in the resource pack and answers available in the note section of the slide). Young people can then challenge themselves by creating their own codes and getting others to decipher them.

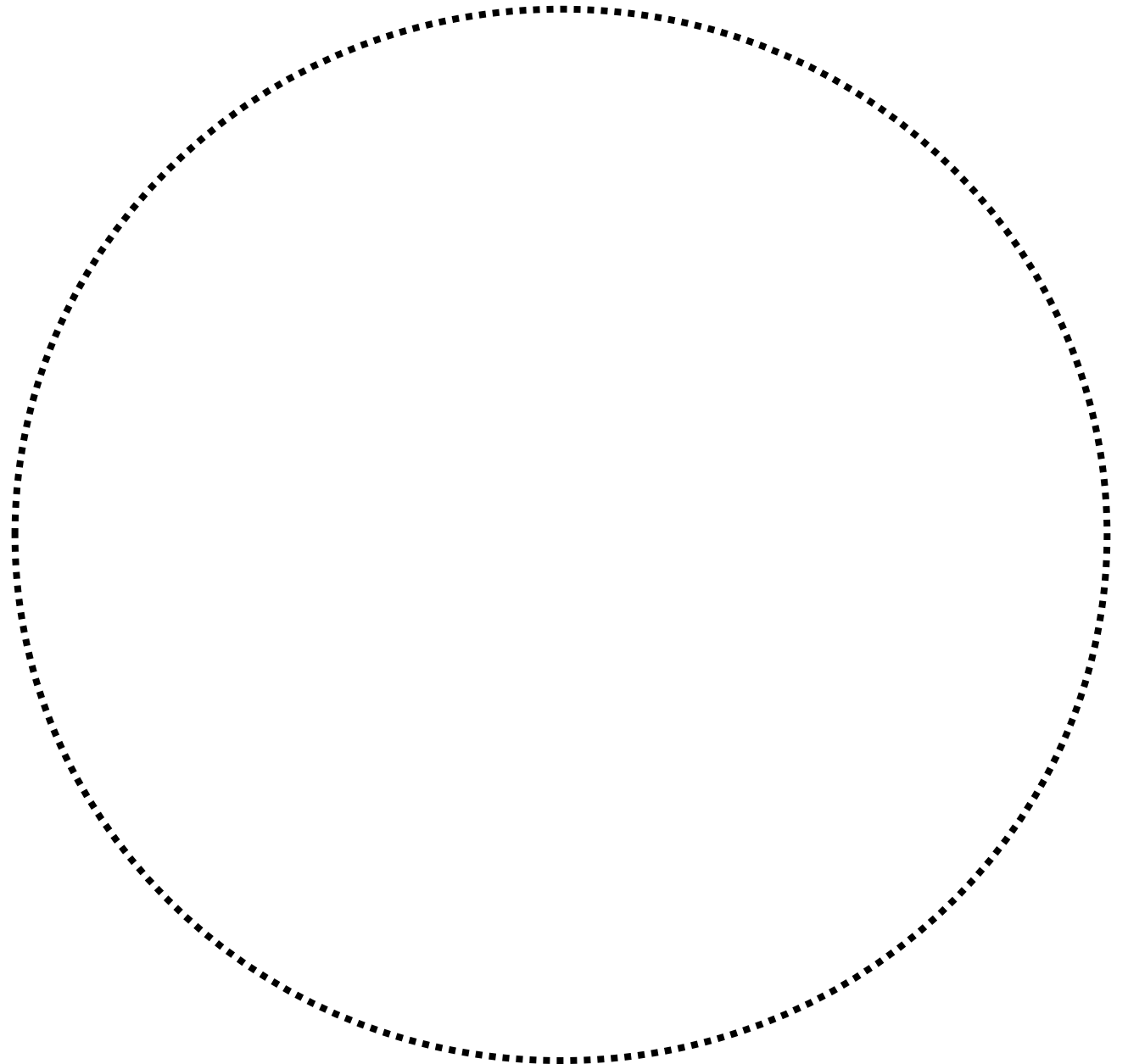
Slide 9 allows young people to bring all of their learning together to complete their role as a WAC(I) or W.R.I.N.S. by writing a letter home to their family about their work. A success criteria is there to support and scaffold to ensure that there is guidance.

WRINS and W.A.C.(I)

The Women's Royal Indian Naval Service (WRINS) and Women's Auxiliary Corps India (WAC(I)) was established to allow women from India to join the forces to support the British in fighting the threat from Japan. Without these women, who worked as clerks and coders, Britain would not have succeeded in winning the Second World War.



Design a coin to commemorate the work of the W.R.I.N.S and W.A.C.(I) during the Second World War.





**Indian Women &
War – the work
of the W.R.I.N.S
and W.A.C.(I)**

**How do you think women
contributed to the war effort
during the Second World War?**

**Create a mind map with your
ideas.**

Women at War

During the Second World War, women were needed in large numbers to fill the roles of men. When the Japanese threatened to invade, India was determined that everyone help to ensure that the Japanese were not successful. With India needing to train women, there was a choice of units to join.

Women's Auxiliary Corps India (WAC(I))

- Set up in 1942 to support the war effort. It was modelled on the Auxiliary Territorial Service (A.T.S) of Britain.
- Jobs included: clerks, signallers and drivers.
- Recruitment was aged between 17 and 50.
- They had to know English.

Women's Royal Indian Naval Service (WRINS)

- Set up in 1944 to aid in the fight against Japan.
- Recruitment was aged between 17 and 50.
- They had to know spoken and written English.
- Girls had to go through many tests and lectures.
- Jobs included: weapon handling, typists, loggers, coders, cypher watchers, telephonists and office clerks.

What do you notice are the similarities and differences?

Which group would you want to join? Why?



WOMEN'S AUXILIARY CORPS IN INDIA.

FORM OF APPLICATION

NAMES IN FULL

AGE

PLACE OF RESIDENCE: (a) Present Address

(b) Permanent Address.

Whether married, spinster or widow

If married, name of husband and his employment

Any special qualifications you may have

Note. All employment is full time, i.e. you may not be engaged in other employment, official or private. Are you prepared to do this?

State what kind of employment would you prefer in order of preference

What can you learn from this source about how women joined the WAC(I)?

Does anything surprise you? Why?

**How would you feel if you were a
WAC(I) or WRINS and had to move
away from your family to support the
war effort?**

**What about if it was to a different
country?**

NAMES IN FULL

AGE

PLACE OF RESIDENCE: (a) Present Address

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Whether married, spinster or widow

If married, name of husband and his employment

Any special qualifications you may have

Note. All employment is full time, i.e. you may not be engaged in other employment, official or private. Are you prepared to do this?

State what kind of employment would you prefer in order of preference

Today you are taking on the role of becoming a member of the WRINS or WAC(I).

Your first task is to apply – complete the application form to join the services.

Make sure you make it as appealing as possible!

Crack the codes and decipher the messages from the British Navy.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13

N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

1. 20, 8, 5 10,1,16,1,14,5,19,5 8,1,22,5 1,20,20,1,3,11,5,4 16,5,1,18,12

8,1,18,2,15,18.

2. 23,15,13,5,14 8,1,4 20,8,5 3,8,15,9,3,5 20,15 23,5,1,18

19,1,18,9,19.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
G	Q	Z	L	H	V	M	C	S	N	T	I	D

N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
F	R	W	A	X	E	P	K	Y	B	U	J	O

3. D,G,F,Y B,X,S,F,E C,G,L V,G,D,S,I,J E,H,X,Y,S,F,M S,F P,C,H

G,X,D,H,L V,R,X,Z,H,E.

3. P,X,G,S,F,S,F,M B,G,E F,R,P H,G,E,J G,F,L S,P B,G,E I,R,F,M

C,R,K,X,E.

You are in!

Now your cypher skills are going to be tested.

Task 1 – decipher the codes that you have been sent using the key. The quickest and most accurate wins.

Task 2 – create your own cypher and get a fellow WRINS or WAC(I) to decipher it.

Amazing work. You have proved yourself and successfully supported the Allies to victory.

Write a **letter home** reflecting on the work that you have been doing. Use the success criteria to support your writing.



Success Criteria:

- What organisation are you part of?
- What are your day-to-day tasks?
 - How do you feel?
- How important is your war work?
 - How did you join?
 - How are you treated?
- What are your hopes for the future?
- How do you hope your family at home in India feel about your work?

WOMEN'S AUXILIARY CORPS IN INDIA - FORM OF APPLICATION

NAME IN FULL

AGE

PLACE OF RESIDENCE: (a) Present Address

(b) Permanent Address.

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If married, name of husband and his employment

Any special qualifications you may have

Note. All employment is full time, i.e. you may not be engaged in other employment, official or private. Are you prepared to do this?

State what kind of employment would you prefer in order of preference

Crack the codes and decipher the messages from the Navy

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13

N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
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2. 23,15,13,5,14 8,1,4 20,8,5 3,8,15,9,3,5 20,15 23,5,1,18 19,1,18,9,19.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
G	Q	Z	L	H	V	M	C	S	N	T	I	D

N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
F	R	W	A	X	E	P	K	Y	B	U	J	O

3. D,G,F,Y B,X,S,F,E C,G,L V,G,D,S,I,J E,H,X,Y,S,F,M S,F P,C,H G,X,D,H,L V,R,X,Z,H,E.
4. P,X,G,S,F,S,F,M B,G,E F,R,P H,G,E,J G,F,L S,P B,G,E I,R,F,M C,R,K,X,E.