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Caribbean family in Trafalgar Square

Feeding the pigeons in London is an activity that has been enjoyed by new arrivals, visitors and residents of London for many years.

If you had recently travelled to London, where would you visit first with your family, and why?



This painting from between 1950-1962 shows a Caribbean family feeding pigeons in Trafalgar Square.



Additional Information for Teachers

[View this object in the Museum of London's collections.](#)

This painting, one of a pair, depicts a Caribbean family feeding pigeons in Trafalgar Square; [the accompanying painting shows a group of Indian women at the same London landmark.](#) Both paintings date from the 1950s, a period when debate about Commonwealth immigration was at its height. The 1948 British Nationality Act extended citizenship rights to people in Commonwealth countries and the first Windrush sailings took place in the same year.

In this painting a number of white people are included in the background. The juxtaposition suggests an inclusive and harmonious society, in which immigration is readily accepted. Feeding pigeons has been identified as an activity enjoyed by 'newcomers' to the capital: by implication, this family comprising two women, a man and a small girl, have newly arrived in the country.

There may be a subtle religious dimension to this work. Harold Deardon was a Christadelphian, believing in harmony between all Christian brethren.



All Children Should Be Seen

'What led to the diversity we see in London today? Why is it important to see people that look like us in books, on television, and around us?'

Create a superhero of your own that reflects your culture.



All children should be seen

Much of a child's early development is through play. All children need to see themselves represented positively in play materials.

The Working Group AGAINST RACISM IN CHILDREN'S RESOURCES
460 Wandsworth Road, London, SW8 3JX. Tel: 071 627 4594

WORKING FOR CHANGE

This poster shows three children reading a book called 'Bright Eyes Brown Skin'. It was published by in 1992 by the Working Group against Racism in Children's Resources, a charity based in Brixton.

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Organisations like The Black Curriculum are working towards representing Black culture, arts and history in all areas of the curriculum. This includes the history and the legacies of the British Empire, the Transatlantic Slave Trade, and colonialism in History lessons. What responsibility do schools have to go beyond representation and to support racial equality in the education they provide?



Figure of Africa

What is the difference between cultural appropriation and appreciation?

Create a collage celebrating a culture other than your own whilst trying to avoid stereotypes.



This figure represents the continent of Africa and it was made between 1826-1835, the time of the British Empire.



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This man represents the continent of Africa. He is draped in fabric and holds a cornucopia overflowing with fruit. He has one knee on the back of a lion and wears the head of an elephant on his own head. At the time of the British Empire, natural resources like gold, diamonds, ivory, animal skins, vegetable oil and rubber were all profitably exported to Britain from regions of Africa which then became British colonies.