

**Lesson Plan: Women at War West Newcastle 1914-1918
Zeppelin Raid 14 April 1915 (Benwell)**

Teacher/s:	Date:
Subject: History	Year:
Learning Objectives: Understand how our knowledge of the past is constructed from a range of sources. Create structured accounts, including written narratives.	Success Criteria: The pupils will understand the impact of the first Zeppelin raid over the North East.
Key Questions: What was the route taken by Zeppelin L9? What effect did the raid have on people in the North East?	
Starter Activity/Introduction Follow the route of L9 on the night of 14 th April 1915. Look at the places bombs fell. What do you think the crew were aiming at? Collieries in the rural areas, anything in the built up areas. The airships crossed the coast at Blyth to avoid anti-aircraft guns on ships protecting the Tyne.	Resources Zeppelin Map_of_Airship_Raids_14-Apr-1915_15-Jun-1915
Main Activity The story of the Zeppelin over the recruiting meeting made a stir. The illustration is from a popular magazine <i>The War Illustrated</i> and the article from the Sunderland Echo April 15 th 1915. Discuss the shock effect of this huge enemy airship overhead, apparently unstoppable and invulnerable.	Resource Zeppelins over Blyth worksheet.
Plenary The Zeppelin danger captured the public imagination with a flurry of stories, adverts and mocking cartoons. Local printers and photographers were quick to see a new market, like the fake Zeppelin over Blyth postcard. The children can make their own using these contemporary images of Benwell and Elswick by drawing enemy airships on blank sky areas. For a little more authenticity cut out the silhouettes of L9 and paste them on the postcards. Think of a short, appropriate caption, like <i>Terror in the Skies over Benwell</i> .	Resources Zeppelins over Benwell worksheet. Zeppelin L9 Silhouettes.

AIRSHIP RAIDS.

No. 3.



14th APRIL, 1915.	15th JUNE, 1915.
WEATHER : <i>Little wind on N.E. coast. Slight rain or mist over mouth of the Tyne.</i>	<i>Moderate wind on N.E. coast. Fins, clear sky.</i>
BOMBS : 31.	53.
CASUALTIES : 2 injured.	18 killed, 72 injured.
MONETARY DAMAGE : £55.	£41,760.

Scale of 1-inch to One Mile = 1:63,360

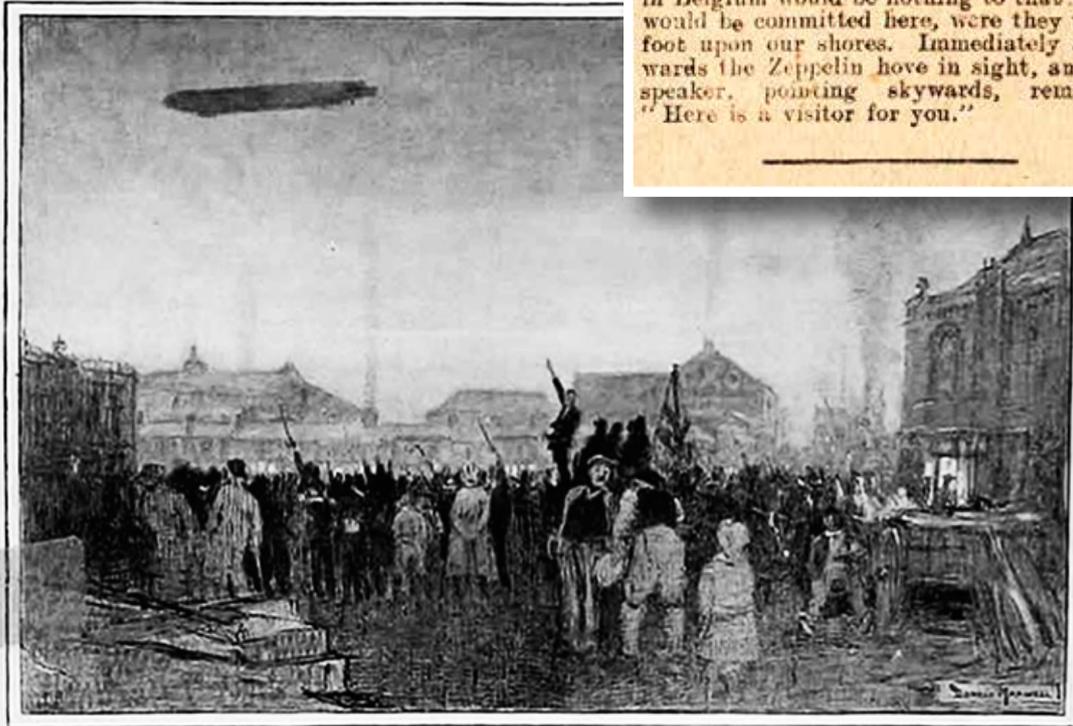
Ordnance Survey, 1930.

ZEPPELINS OVER BLYTH

Zeppelin L9 flew over the North East on 14th April 1915. The airship was first sighted over Blyth around 8pm before flying on to Wallsend and Hebburn. L9 dropped 31 bombs but only two people were injured and little damage was done.

A REMARKABLE INCIDENT.

A dramatic incident occurred in the Blyth Market Place when the airship was first noticed. The Rev. J. W. Ogden was addressing a recruiting meeting, and was speaking of the barbarism of the Germans. He asserted that the barbarism committed in Belgium would be nothing to that which would be committed here, were they to set foot upon our shores. Immediately afterwards the Zeppelin hove in sight, and the speaker, pointing skywards, remarked "Here is a visitor for you."



TO POINT THE PATRIOT'S APPEAL. A ZEPPELIN APPEARS AT A RECRUITING MEETING IN THE MARKET SQUARE OF BLYTH.

Imagine you were in the crowd at the recruiting meeting. Write an extract in your diary describing what you saw and your feelings about this.

14th April 1915

ZEPPELINS OVER BENWELL

Zeppelins first flew over the North East in April 1915. This postcard of Blyth was sold by quick thinking printers to cash in on this latest German outrage.



Now cut out and design your own sensational postcards of Elswick and Benwell. Draw or stick on a menacing Zeppelin from the resource sheet and write a short caption. The bottom postcard shows Armstrong's Works.

There may be a war on but there's money to be made!



Zeppelin L9 Silhouettes

