

Emmeline Pankhurst



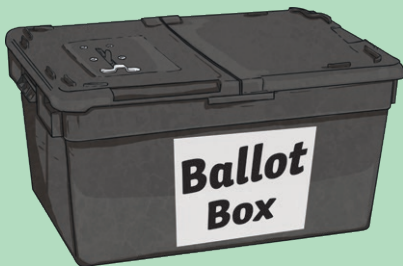
Emmeline Pankhurst was the leader of a women's group who were known as the Suffragettes. She is famous for helping women to be allowed to vote in **elections**.



Early Life

Pankhurst was born in Manchester on 14th July 1858. She had nine younger brothers and sisters. She started to become interested in women's **suffrage** when she was a child.

Voting in Emmeline Pankhurst's Time



Not all men were allowed to vote in elections when Pankhurst was born. The men that could vote were usually wealthy. Women were not allowed to vote. Some people thought that this wasn't right they began to form groups to try and get the law changed.

Emmeline Pankhurst and her husband Richard Pankhurst had five children after they married in 1879. Richard Pankhurst also believed that women should be allowed to vote.



The Suffragettes

Pankhurst created a new group for women called the Women's Social and Political Union (WSPU) in 1903. They were given the nickname of the Suffragettes. The WSPU strongly believed that women should be able to vote in elections and organised lots of events to try to make their feelings known.



Did You Know...?

The WSPU often got into trouble for chaining themselves to railings, smashing windows and damaging property. They did this to get people to pay attention to their cause.

The First World War

The WSPU took a break from their activities when the First World War began in 1914. They decided that it was more important to help support the country. Thousands of men had been sent to fight in the war so there were lots of jobs that needed to be done to keep the country running.



Did You Know...?

Emmeline Pankhurst asked members of the WSPU to volunteer for jobs such as working in factories or farming land.

Women's Vote

Pankhurst ended the WSPU in 1917. The law changed to allow women over the age of 30 to vote a year later. However, women still did not have the same voting rights as men. It was only in 1928 that women were finally allowed to vote with the same rights as men.



Glossary

elections: When people vote to choose someone to be a political leader or a Member of Parliament.

suffrage: The right to vote in political elections.



Questions

1. Emmeline Pankhurst was famous for helping women to be allowed to _____.

Tick one.

- drive
- marry
- vote
- work

2. Number the events from 1–4 to show the order that they happened in.

- Emmeline Pankhurst started the WSPU.
- Women were finally allowed to vote with the same rights as men.
- Emmeline Pankhurst and her husband Richard Pankhurst had five children.
- The First World War began.

3. Where was Emmeline Pankhurst born? Tick one.

- London
- Glasgow
- Birmingham
- Manchester

4. Why did the WSPU stop all their activities in 1914? Tick one.

- They ran out of money.
- Lots of people had left the WSPU.
- The First World War began.
- They kept getting into trouble.

5. Fill in the missing words.

The WSPU often got into trouble for chaining themselves to railings,

_____ windows and damaging _____.

6. What nickname was the WSPU given?

7. Do you think that things might have been different if Emmeline Pankhurst had not started the WSPU? Explain your answer.

Answers

1. Emmeline Pankhurst was famous for helping women to be allowed to _____.

Tick one.

- drive
- marry
- vote**
- work

2. Number the events from 1–4 to show the order that they happened in.

- 2** Emmeline Pankhurst started the WSPU.
- 4** Women were finally allowed to vote with the same rights as men.
- 1** Emmeline Pankhurst and her husband Richard Pankhurst had five children.
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- London
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The WSPU often got into trouble for chaining themselves to railings, **smashing** windows and damaging **property**.

6. What nickname was the WSPU given?

The WSPU were given the nickname of the Suffragettes.

7. Do you think that things might have been different if Emmeline Pankhurst had not started the WSPU? Explain your answer.

Pupils' own responses, such as: I think that if Emmeline Pankhurst hadn't started the WSPU, then it would have taken much longer for women to be allowed to vote. I think that she helped to get the law changed more quickly.

Emmeline Pankhurst



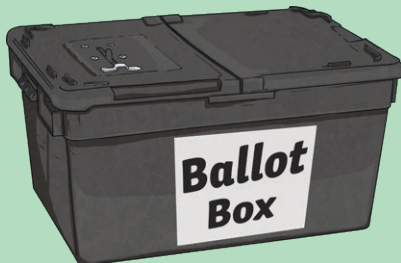
Emmeline Pankhurst was the leader of a women's group who were known as the Suffragettes. The Suffragettes fought for women to be able to vote in **elections**.

What Was Emmeline Pankhurst's Early Life Like?



Pankhurst was born in Manchester on 14th July 1858. She was the eldest of ten children. Pankhurst's mother took her to her first **suffrage** meeting when she was 14 years old. Pankhurst soon became deeply interested in women's right to vote.

Voting in Emmeline Pankhurst's Time



Only certain men were allowed to vote in elections when Pankhurst was born. These men were usually wealthy people. Some people thought that this wasn't right so they began to form groups to try and bring about a change in the law.

Emmeline Pankhurst and her husband Richard Pankhurst had five children after they married in 1879. The children were called Christabel, Sylvia, Adela, Frank and Harry. Richard Pankhurst also believed that women should be allowed to vote.



Who Were the Suffragettes?

In 1903, Pankhurst created a new group for women called the Women's Social and Political

Union (WSPU). The WSPU wanted women to have the same voting rights as men. The WSPU became known as the Suffragettes and were more forceful than other women's suffrage groups. They chained themselves to railings, smashed windows and damaged property to get their cause noticed.



Did You Know...?

Emmeline Pankhurst was arrested several times for her activities and even spent some time in prison.

What Happened When the First World War Began?

The WSPU decided to stop all activities and support the country when the First World War began. Thousands of men had been sent to war so there were lots of jobs that needed to be carried out.

Pankhurst eventually ended the WSPU in 1917.



Did You Know...?

In Emmeline Pankhurst's time, a lot of women had never had a job. She encouraged members of the WSPU to volunteer for lots of jobs that men usually carried out, such as working in factories or farming land.

When Were Women Allowed to Vote?

After the war, some women over the age of 30 were given the right to vote. Even though this was a big change, women still did not have the same voting rights as men. Finally, in 1928, women were allowed to vote at the age of 21.



Glossary

elections: When people vote to choose someone to be a political leader or a Member of Parliament.

suffrage: The right to vote in political elections.



Disclaimer: We hope you find the information and resources on our website useful. Please be aware that aspects of an individual's life may be controversial to some. Due to this, we highly recommend that you carefully research the individual before teaching about them to learners. If your learners do independent research about an individual, we advise using only pre-selected, appropriate sources of information and websites appropriate to their age.

Questions

1. How old was Emmeline Pankhurst when she attended her first suffrage meeting? Tick one.

- 12 years old
- 16 years old
- 14 years old
- 18 years old

2. Draw **four** lines and match each event with the correct year.

Emmeline Pankhurst created a new group for women called the Women's Social and Political Union (WSPU).

1858

Emmeline Pankhurst eventually ended the WSPU.

1879

Emmeline Pankhurst was born in Manchester.

1917

Emmeline Pankhurst married Richard Pankhurst.

1903

3. **Only certain men were allowed to vote in elections when Pankhurst was born. These men were usually wealthy people.**

Which word means the same as 'wealthy'? Tick one.

- poor
- old
- rich
- clever

4. **In Emmeline Pankhurst's time, a lot of women had never had a _____.**

Tick one.

- home
- job
- family
- pet

5. Give the names of **two** of Emmeline Pankhurst's children.

1. _____

2. _____

6. Fill in the missing words.

The WSPU decided to _____ all activities and support the
_____ when the First World War began.

7. How do you think Emmeline Pankhurst would have felt when she found out that women were finally allowed to vote?

8. Sum up what you have learnt about Emmeline Pankhurst.

Answers

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Which word means the same as 'wealthy'? Tick one.

- poor
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4. **In Emmeline Pankhurst's time, a lot of women had never had a _____.**

Tick one.

- home
- job**
- family
- pet

5. Give the names of **two** of Emmeline Pankhurst's children.

Accept any two of the following: Christabel; Sylvia; Adela; Frank; Harry.

6. Fill in the missing words.

The WSPU decided to **stop** all activities and support the **country** when the First World War began.

7. How do you think Emmeline Pankhurst would have felt when she found out that women were finally allowed to vote?

Pupils' own responses, such as: I think Emmeline Pankhurst would have been very pleased that women were finally allowed to vote. She may also have been proud that all of her campaigning had made a difference.

8. Sum up what you have learnt about Emmeline Pankhurst.

Pupils' own responses, such as: Emmeline Pankhurst started the WSPU who were known as the Suffragettes. She worked hard to try and change the law so that women would be allowed to vote.

Emmeline Pankhurst



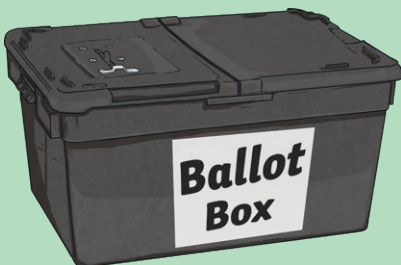
Emmeline Pankhurst led a women's rights group known as the Suffragettes. She **campaigned** for equal voting rights for men and women.

Early Life



Pankhurst was born in Manchester on 14th July 1858. She was the eldest of ten children. Her parents were interested in politics. Her father worked with the local town council and her mother took her to her first **suffrage** meeting when she was just 14 years old.

Voting in the 1800s



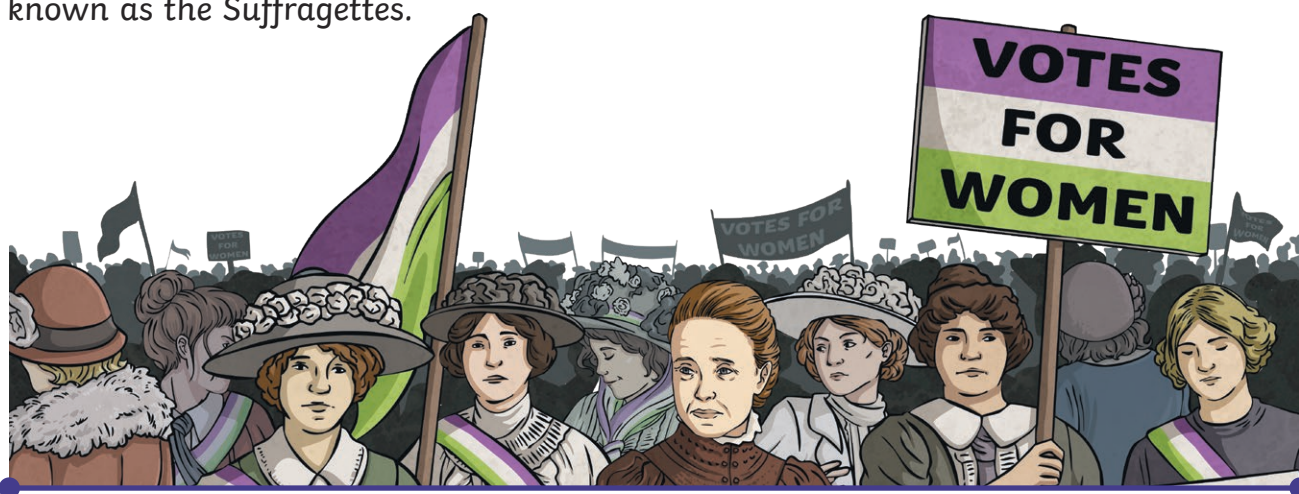
When Pankhurst was born, only certain men were allowed to vote in **elections**. These men tended to be wealthier. In 1867, the law was changed so that more working men could vote but this law still excluded women.

Emmeline Pankhurst and her husband Richard Pankhurst had five children after they married in 1879. The children were called Christabel, Sylvia, Adela, Frank and Harry. Richard Pankhurst was also a strong supporter of women's suffrage. Ten years later, Emmeline and Richard Pankhurst founded the Women's Franchise League which fought for married women to be able to vote in local elections. Richard Pankhurst supported Emmeline Pankhurst's campaigning until his death in 1898.



The Suffragettes

In 1903, Pankhurst created a new group for women with the support of her daughters Christabel and Sylvia, which focused just on voting rights. She called it the Women's Social and Political Union (WSPU). The WSPU were different to other women's suffrage groups. Rather than carrying out peaceful marches and speeches, the WSPU chained themselves to railings, smashed windows and damaged property to draw attention to their cause. Many of the women in the WSPU were sent to prison for their activities and Pankhurst was arrested several times. Emmeline Pankhurst and her WSPU members soon became known as the Suffragettes.



The First World War

When the First World War began in 1914, the WSPU decided to stop all campaigning and support the country. They decided that the safety and security of their country was more important than their suffrage cause. Pankhurst encouraged members of the WSPU to volunteer for different roles, including working in factories or farming land. During the war, she travelled around the United States, Canada and Russia giving speeches to encourage women to start or return to work. Pankhurst eventually ended the WSPU in 1917.



A Change in the Law

In 1918, women over the age of 30 were given the right to vote as long as themselves or their husband owned property. Despite being a huge change, women still did not have the same voting rights as men. Finally, in 1928, women were allowed to vote at the age of 21. This change in the law occurred just three weeks after Emmeline Pankhurst's death.

Remembering Emmeline Pankhurst

In 2002, Pankhurst was named in a list of 100 Greatest Britons. A memorial for her was erected in Victoria Tower Gardens, London, in 1930 and in 2018, a bronze statue was unveiled in Pankhurst's home town of Manchester.

Glossary



campaigned: Organised a course of action to achieve a goal.

elections: The process of voting to choose someone to be a political leader or a Member of Parliament.

suffrage: The right to vote in political elections.



Questions

1. What were Emmeline Pankhurst's parents both interested in? Tick one.

- gardening
- politics
- writing
- travelling

2. Number the events from 1–5 to show the order in which they happened. The first one has been done for you.

- Emmeline Pankhurst created the Women's Social and Political Union (WSPU).
- Women were allowed to vote at the age of 21.
- 1 Emmeline Pankhurst was born in Manchester.
- Emmeline Pankhurst and her husband Richard Pankhurst had five children.
- Emmeline Pankhurst eventually ended the WSPU.

3. Give **two** activities that the WSPU carried out to draw attention to their cause.

1. _____
2. _____

4. What did the WSPU become known as?

5. Find and copy a word that shows that Emmeline Pankhurst tried to persuade women to help support their country during the First World War.

6. Look at the section called **Voting in the 1800s**. Why do you think that this has been included in the text?

7. Discuss why you think that Emmeline Pankhurst allowed herself to keep getting arrested.

8. Why do you think that a statue of Emmeline Pankhurst was unveiled in her home town?

Answers

- What were Emmeline Pankhurst's parents both interested in? Tick one.
 - gardening
 - politics**
 - writing
 - travelling
- Number the events from 1–5 to show the order in which they happened. The first one has been done for you.
 - 3** Emmeline Pankhurst created the Women's Social and Political Union (WSPU).
 - 5** Women were allowed to vote at the age of 21.
 - 1** Emmeline Pankhurst was born in Manchester.
 - 2** Emmeline Pankhurst and her husband Richard Pankhurst had five children.
 - 4** Emmeline Pankhurst eventually ended the WSPU.
- Give **two** activities that the WSPU carried out to draw attention to their cause.
Accept any two of the following: chained themselves to railings; smashed windows; damaged property.
- What did the WSPU become known as?
The WSPU members soon became known as the Suffragettes.
- Find and copy a word that shows that Emmeline Pankhurst tried to persuade women to help support their country during the First World War.
encourage(d)
- Look at the section called **Voting in the 1800s**. Why do you think that this has been included in the text?
Pupils' own responses, such as: I think that this box has been included in the text to help the reader to understand a bit more about the historical background of the text and about voting in Emmeline Pankhurst's time.
- Discuss why you think that Emmeline Pankhurst allowed herself to keep getting arrested.
Pupils' own responses, such as: I think Emmeline Pankhurst allowed herself to keep getting arrested because she felt strongly about her cause and felt that this was more important than following the law. She wanted to make her voice heard.
- Why do you think that a statue of Emmeline Pankhurst was unveiled in her home town?
Pupils' own responses, such as: I think a statue was unveiled in Emmeline's home town because she was an important person who made a big difference to people's lives. The people of Manchester may be proud that she came from there.