

Sir Nicolas Winton



Image: [Wikimedia Commons](#)

Activity is based on [this text](#).

Learn about Sir Nicholas Winton who helped save 669 children from the Nazis during World War II.

- Nicholas was born in London in 1909. He learned about the bad things the Nazis were doing.
- He wanted to help children from Czechoslovakia escape to Britain. He worked very hard to make this happen.
- Because of his hard work, many children were saved. One of these children was Vera Schaufeld.

Read [this text](#) and answer the following questions:

1. Where was Nicholas Winton born?
 - a) Germany
 - b) Austria
 - c) London
 - d) Czechoslovakia
2. What significant event did Nicholas learn about from a friend?
 - a) The start of World War II
 - b) The bad things the Nazis were doing
 - c) The refugee situation in Britain
 - d) The rise of Hitler

3. What terrible event happened on Kristallnacht?
 - a) Children were rescued
 - b) Many shops owned by Jewish people were destroyed
 - c) A peace treaty was signed
 - d) A new government was formed
4. What did the British government allow after Kristallnacht?
 - a) All adults to leave
 - b) Children from Germany and Austria to escape
 - c) No one to leave the country
 - d) Only Jewish people to stay
5. What two requirements did the British government set for the escape of children from Czechoslovakia?
 - a) A family in Britain and a job waiting
 - b) £50 and a family in Britain
 - c) A passport and a bus ticket
 - d) £100 and a sponsor
6. How many children did Nicholas Winton help to escape?
 - a) 550
 - b) 669
 - c) 700
 - d) 800
7. What was one of Nicholas Winton's beliefs?
 - a) People should ignore problems
 - b) Everyone should stand by when things go wrong
 - c) Nobody should help others
 - d) People should try to help others when they can
8. How old was Nicholas Winton when he passed away?
 - a) 89
 - b) 95
 - c) 106
 - d) 110
9. What did Nicholas Winton say about his actions?
 - a) He thought he did nothing special
 - b) He wanted fame for his actions
 - c) He was proud of his achievements
 - d) He did it for the government

10. What does the term 'Nazis' refer to?
- a) A group of artists in Germany
 - b) A political party in Britain
 - c) A group of people in Germany who were racist
 - d) Jewish leaders during World War II

Questions for Discussion:


1. What qualities made Winton a hero? Do you think he saw himself as one?
2. What can we learn from Winton's actions about helping others in today's world?
3. What ethical dilemmas might Nicholas Winton have faced during his efforts to rescue children?
4. Winton kept his actions a secret for many years. Why do you think he chose not to talk about his efforts?
5. How did Nicholas Winton's actions change the lives of the children he rescued?
6. Why do you think he was finally recognized so many years later?
7. How should society honor people who perform extraordinary acts of kindness?

Suggestions for Additional Activities/Research:


1. **Research project on Holocaust heroes:** research other individuals or groups who helped rescue Jews during the Holocaust.
2. **Create a timeline:** Develop a timeline that includes key events leading up to Kristallnacht, the establishment of the Kindertransport, and other significant milestones related to refuge and rescue during World War II.
3. **Human rights discussion:** Organize a discussion or debate on the importance of standing up for human rights today, inspired by Nicholas Winton's legacy. Students can choose a current humanitarian issue to discuss.
4. **Interview a survivor:** If possible, students could arrange to interview a Holocaust survivor or a descendant of a rescued child to gain personal insights into the impact of Winton's actions and the experiences of those involved.

Additional Materials:

Story of Nicholas Winton BBC That's life - Short version

 Sir Nicholas Winton - BBC Programme "That's Life" aired in 1988

Trailer of a movie done on the life of Nicholas Winton

 One Life – Official Trailer - Warner Bros. UK & Ireland