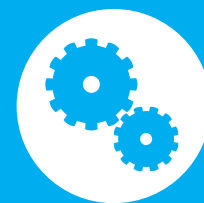




A royal engagement



Time
travellers



30 mins



Jump
straight in

What you'll need

- A large, clear space
- A throne – for example, a chair
- A sceptre – for example, a long tube
- An orb – for example, a ball
- A crown
- A sword – for example, a long stick (optional)
- A cushion (optional)

Note to leader

Before running this activity, you could get each girl to create their own crown for their coronation.

For the coronation, pick girls to play the two ladies-in-waiting, three assistants and the archbishop. Make sure everyone who wants to be crowned gets a chance. If you do the dubbing ceremony, you'll also need a Queen.

Aim of activity

Travel into the past and visit some of Queen Elizabeth II's most memorable moments.

What you'll get out of it

- Explore the life of Queen Elizabeth II.
- Discover some of Queen Elizabeth II's royal duties.



WE DISCOVER, WE GROW

Girlguiding

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What to do

1 What do you think Queen Elizabeth II does as part of her royal duties? Do you know anything else about her?

Queen Elizabeth II

She was born on 21 April 1926, but because she's the Queen we celebrate her birthday twice (on her actual birthday and in June). During World War II, she was evacuated from London, like most inner-city children, but she went to Windsor Castle.

Did you know Queen Elizabeth II was a Guide? Her meeting places were Buckingham Palace and Windsor Castle! Her meetings were the same as everyone else's, and she even earned badges.

2 In 1952 Elizabeth became Queen of the United Kingdom and the other Commonwealth realms. Her **coronation** was in 1953. A coronation is when a person is crowned ruler of the land. Can you recreate Elizabeth's coronation? Your leader will read out the instructions.

3 How do you think the Queen's life changed after her coronation? She would have had to take on lots of royal duties. One was to dub new knights. If someone's awarded you a knighthood, what do you think it could be for? People get awarded knighthoods for services to their country and community.

Queen Elizabeth II coronation

Place the throne at one end of your space with all the guests standing in lines either side of it. Archbishop and assistants – stand next to the throne. Each assistant should hold the sceptre, orb or crown. When you're ready, have the Queen walk down the aisle and sit on the throne with her ladies-in-waiting following her. Don't forget to bow as she walks past you!

Script

Archbishop: Are you willing to take the oath?

Queen: I am willing.

Each assistant must bow to the Queen and pass the archbishop each item, one by one. The archbishop needs to place the crown on her head first, pass her the sceptre and then the orb.

Archbishop: I present to you Queen [name]. Long live the Queen.

Guests: Long live the Queen. Long live the Queen.

The Queen should walk back down the aisle with her ladies-in-waiting following her.

Try it this way

Hold your own dubbing ceremony and knight each girl in your unit. Someone waiting to be dubbed would kneel in front of the Queen on a cushion. The Queen would tap a sword on either shoulder and ask them to rise as 'Sir or Lady' and their name. They would stand up, bow and walk away backwards.