



Playing Cat and Mouse

Timeline	
1897	NUWSS formed. Millicent Fawcett is leader.
1903	WSPU is formed by Emmeline Pankhurst and daughters.
1905	Militant Campaign begins – Christabel Pankhurst and Annie Kenney arrested.
1908	Mass rally in London – 300,000 to 500,000 activists attend. Window smashing using stones with written pleas on them.
1909	Hunger strike and force feeding starts – Marian Wallace Dunlop becomes the first hunger striker.
1913	Militant bomb and arson campaigns and increasing arrests which results in the passing of the “Cat and Mouse” Act , under which hunger strikers are temporarily released then rearrested to prevent them dying in police custody.
1913	Emily Wilding Davison attempts to pin a Suffragette scarf onto the King’s Horse at the Derby. She is struck by the horse and dies 4 days later.
1914	World War 1 starts – Suffragette leaders urge women to join the war effort. NUWSS continues to campaign for recognition for their work.
1918	The Representation of the People Act is passed, allowing men over 21 and women over 30 to vote.



1. What was life like for men and women in the 19th century?

- Men would need to be educated and have training so that they could earn the salary (known as bread winners)
- Women were expected to be homemakers – staying at home and raising children
- Men had rights to a democratic vote – they had the final say in any decision making – women would seek permission.



Key Vocabulary	
Democracy	Democracy allows everyone to have their voice heard and vote.
Militant	Aggressive or violent behaviour, in pursuit of a political cause.
Petition	A formal written request of application to ask for something or challenge something.
Propaganda	Adverts and ideas designed to make people think a certain way.
Suffrage	The right to vote in political elections.

4. Who was Emmeline Pankhurst and why was she significant?

- She was brought up in a politically active family
- She was a leader of the women's rights movement during the 1800s and early 1900s
- She worked for 40 years to achieve equal voting rights for men and women
- She was a member of the WSPU

3. What is the Peterloo Massacre and why did it happen?

- 16th August 1819 over 50,000 people gathered in St Petersfield in Manchester to protest for the right to vote. By the end of the day, it led to the death of 10-20 people with more than 400 injured.

2. Who were the Suffragettes and what did they do?

- A group of women who fought for Women’s Rights

6 What were the political consequences of the Suffragette movement and how has it impacted life today?

- Women have more equality and they now have the right to vote.

5. What was ‘The Cat and Mouse Act’?

- To prevent any Suffragettes on **hunger strike from dying in prison**, Parliament introduced the “Cat and Mouse” Act.
- This meant that hunger-strikers were temporarily released from prison **until they recovered** – before being re-arrested and locked up again!

