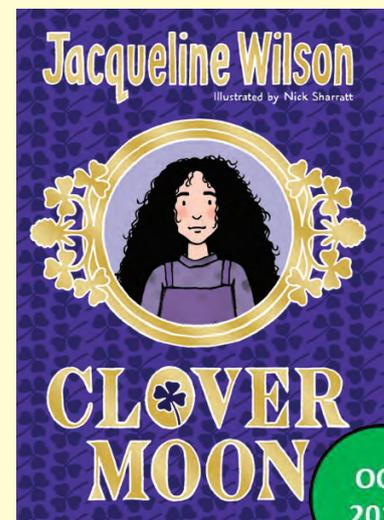
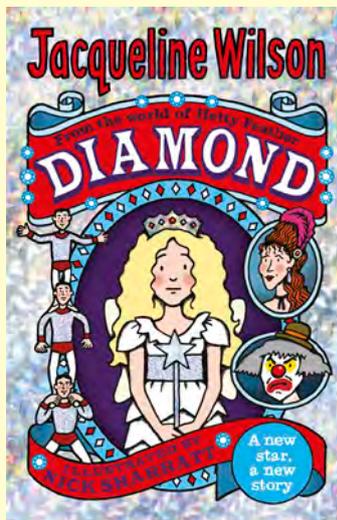
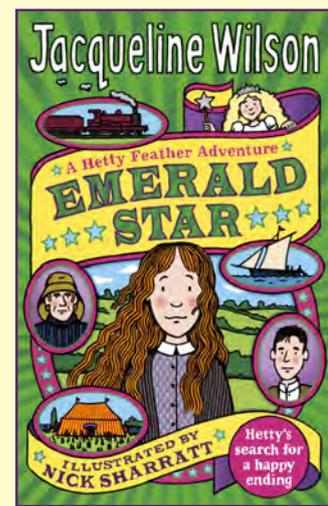
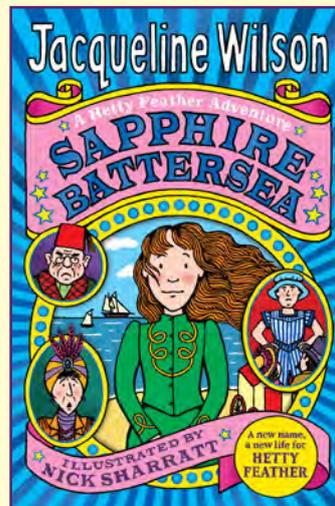
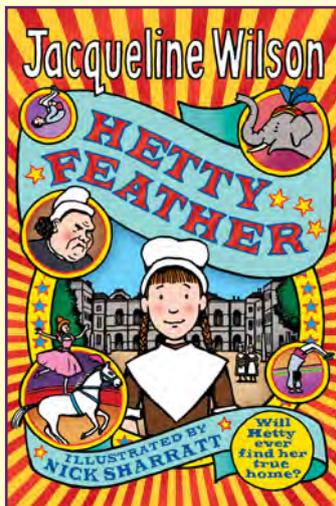


Jacqueline Wilson

Historical Novels Resource Pack



Jacqueline Wilson's historical novels are ideal for sharing with Key Stage 2 and early Key Stage 3 students. This resource pack can be used across the curriculum in subjects such as Literacy, History and Art. But don't feel you have to confine it to the classroom – you could explore Jacqueline's life and writing with a book group, writing club or even in a whole school assembly.



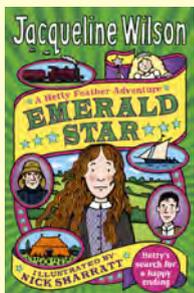
Jacqueline Wilson's Historical Novels



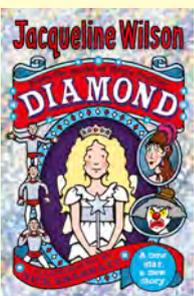
London, 1876. Hetty Feather is just a tiny baby when her mother leaves her at the Foundling Hospital, a home for abandoned children. Hetty has a glimpse into a happy family life when she is sent to the countryside to live with a foster family. With her foster brothers, Jem and Gideon, Hetty helps in the fields and plays vivid imaginary games. Together they sneak off to visit the travelling circus, and Hetty is mesmerised by the show - especially the stunning Madame Adeline and her performing horses. But Hetty's happiness is threatened once



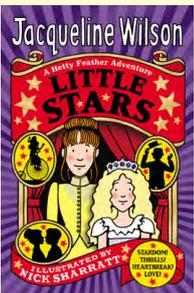
In a bid to leave 'Hetty Feather' behind, Hetty becomes Sapphire Battersea. She hopes her beautiful new name will also mean a new life! But things don't always go as planned. Sapphire becomes a maid for a wealthy man and then travels to the coast alone to find her mother. Forced to earn a living to survive, Sapphire becomes a performer at a seaside attraction. Her life takes a dark twist when she experiences tragic loss.



Since leaving the Foundling Hospital, Hetty has seen her fair share of drama, excitement, tragedy and loss. She now sets off to find a real home at last - starting with the search for her father. But Hetty is no longer a simple country girl, and begins to fear she'll never truly belong anywhere. Hetty still longs for adventure - especially when an enchanting figure from her past makes an unexpected reappearance. Could a more exciting future lie ahead for Hetty?



Born to penniless parents who longed for a strong, healthy son, Diamond was a dainty, delicate daughter - and a bitter disappointment. Discovering an extraordinary gift for acrobatics, Diamond uses her talent to earn a few pennies, but brings shame on her family. When a mysterious, cruel-eyed stranger spots her performing, Diamond is sold - and is taken to become an acrobat at Tanglefield's Travelling Circus. The crowds adore Diamond, but life behind the velvet curtains is far from glamorous.



Hetty Feather has begun a new chapter in her life story. Escaping from Tanglefield's Travelling Circus with her dearest friend Diamond, Hetty is determined to find them positions as glamorous music hall artistes. Hetty and Diamond quickly become the Little Stars of Mrs Ruby's show, alongside many colourful acts - including an old friend from Hetty's past, Flirty Bertie. But the Cavalcade proves a dangerous place, and Hetty must fight to protect her darling Diamond, who longs for a normal childhood. Meanwhile, Hetty struggles to understand her feelings for Bertie - and for Jem, whom she has never forgotten. Hetty dreams of a glittering future for herself and Diamond. The bright lights of the London theatre world beckon - will Hetty become a true star?

DEAR DIARY

CREATIVE WRITING ACTIVITY

Task your students to imagine what it would be like to live in the Foundling Hospital like Hetty Feather. Ask them to write a diary entry about a day in their life at the Foundling Hospital.

Here's some information to help.

The Foundling Hospital was Britain's first official home for orphaned children. From 1739 to 1953 more than 27,000 babies were given up by their mothers and sent to the hospital. On arrival their birth names were changed and all contact with their families was cut off. They were fed, clothed and educated.

The children at the hospital were known as Foundlings and were trained to be hard-working members of society. When they were around 13 they were sent to work – many girls became servants in wealthy houses whilst boys went into the army or navy.

Read these extracts from Jacqueline Wilson's books to learn more:

I took off my coat and then sat down to start unlacing my boots. The matron crumpled my good coat up into a little ball and dropped it into a basket. I gave her one boot and she threw it on top of my coat, careless of the muddy soles. She saw my shocked expression. 'You won't need these anymore,' she said, giving the basket a contemptuous shake. Chapter 10, Hetty Feather

I sobbed myself into a stupor. I could not eat. I could not sleep. I became so fuddled I could barely stagger out of bed. Matron Bottomly and Matron Peters both declared I was faking illness, but I was burning with such a fever that the nurses were frightened and summoned the doctor.

'There is nothing wrong with the child, Dr March,' said Matron Bottomly. 'She simply screamed herself into a passion. I have never known such a wilful child as Hetty Feather. She deserves a good whipping – though of course we would never lay a finger on any of the foundlings,' she added hastily. Chapter 2, Sapphire Battersea

I got very excited and enthusiastic about Christmas. It had never been an extraordinary occasion at the hospital. We'd been given a penny and an orange – that was the extent of our Christmas gifts. Chapter 15, Emerald Star

Here are some key words here to help your students write their diary entry.

Lonely Cold Depressing

DRAMA ACTIVITIES



Recreate a typical Victorian school lesson. The relationship between the teacher and the students was very different in Victorian times. Think about how the students had to sit and how they had to behave. How did a teacher treat their pupils? What subjects did the students learn and how did they learn?

Go to <http://www.jacquelinewilson.co.uk/cinema.php> and watch the book trailers for Hetty Feather, Sapphire Battersea, Emerald Star, Diamond and Little Stars. Split your class into groups and ask them to create their own trailers. They could use freeze frames or act the scenes out.

Split your class into groups and ask them to hot seat different characters from the Hetty Feather adventures. Give each person a different character they could choose from one of these people:

Jem – Hetty's foster brother who has grown up in the country

Ida – a kitchen maid who works in the Foundling Hospital

Matron Bottomly – in charge of the foundlings

Sheila – a foundling child

Madame Adeline – a circus performer

Ask each person 3-5 questions about their character's life. They must answer in role as their character. When you are in role, try to put yourself in your character's shoes. How would they answer the question? Remember life was very different in the Victorian era compared to now.

In large groups, ask your students to create a tableau (a freeze frame) of a Victorian era settings. For example, they could create a tableau which shows:

The busy streets of London

A typical school lesson in the Foundling Hospital

The travelling circus

A kitchen in a wealthy family home

A poor family eating dinner in their home

How is your life different to a child growing up in the Victorian era?

1) Use this table to compare the different lives.

| Foundling Hospital Child | Poor child living in the countryside during the Victorian era | Wealthy child living in a city during the Victorian era | You |
|---|---|---|-----|
| Do you have family? If so, who are they? | | | |
| What is your home like? | | | |
| Do you attend school? If yes, what do you think of it? If no, would you like to? | | | |
| Do you have any hobbies? If so, what are they? | | | |
| Do you work either at home i.e. doing chores or outside of the home to earn money? Explain your answer. | | | |
| What are your hopes and dreams for the future? | | | |

BRINGING THE CIRCUS TO LIFE

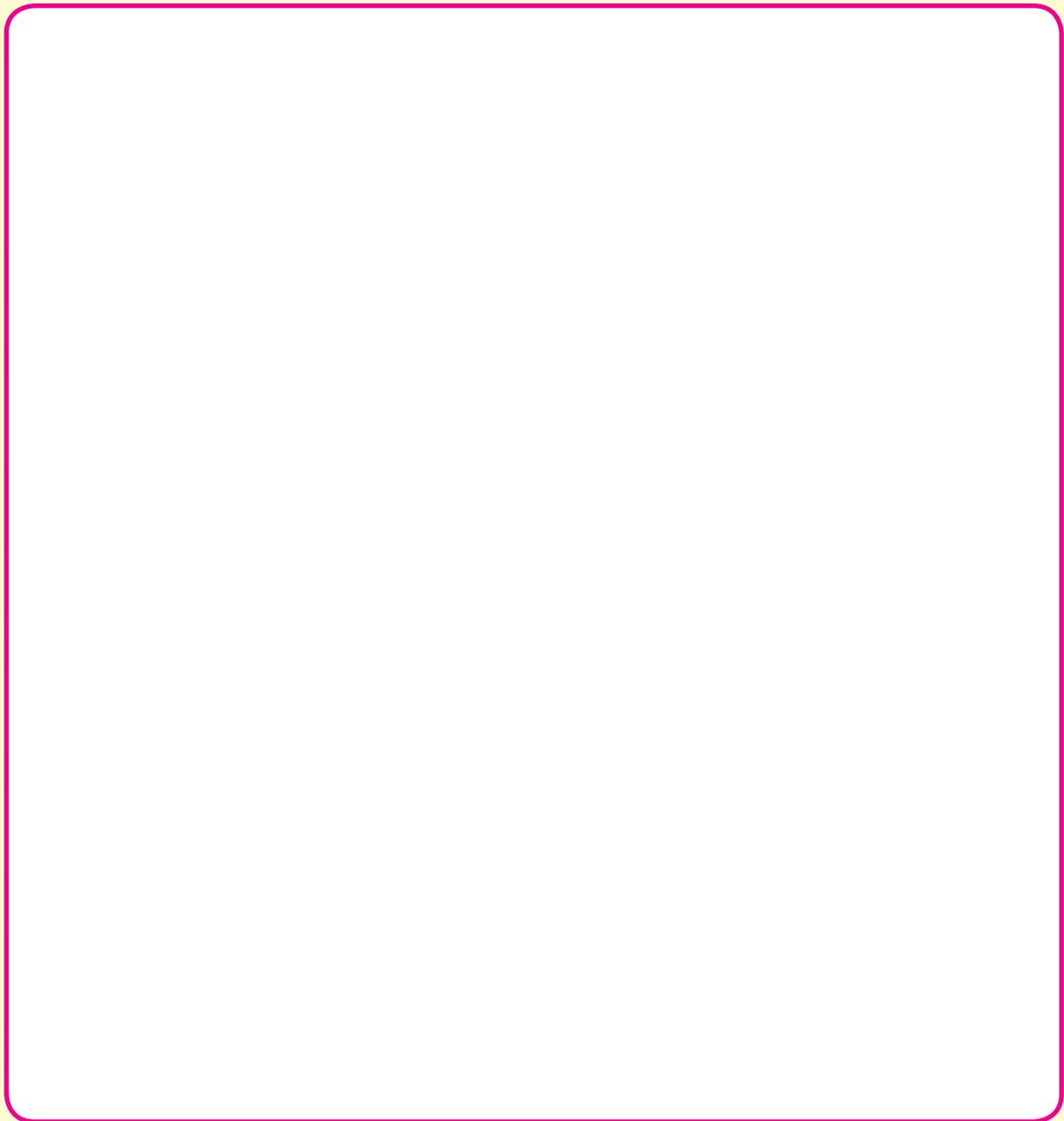
In the Hetty Feather series, Jacqueline Wilson explores the magical and mysterious world of the travelling circus. For both Hetty and Diamond, the circus provides an escape from their ordinary and often tough lives. It allows them to dream, express their creativity and let their imaginations run wild. Ask your students to write a poem about life in the Victorian circus.

Here are some key words to get them started:

Shining Swirl Wonderful Dreams Music

Jump Dancing Star Glitter Magical

Trapeze Acrobat Cheering Horse Monkey



AND INTRODUCING ...

CLOVER MOON

Meet Clover Moon, Jacqueline Wilson's brilliant and brave new heroine, struggling against the odds in Victorian London to find a new home.

Clover Moon's imagination is her best escape from a life of hardship in poverty-stricken Victorian London. When tragedy plunges her into a world of grief, Clover realizes that everything she loved about the place she called home is gone. Clover hears of a place she could run to, but where will she find the courage – and the chance – to break free? And could leaving her family be just what she needs to find a place that really feels like home?

