

Task

In 1961, Khrushchev decided upon a solution to his Berlin and refugee problem. He built a wall separating East Germany from West Germany.

Your task is to recreate the stages of the building of the Berlin wall using the items provided.

Use your textbooks to provide the necessary information.

The team that builds the best, most historically accurate, wall will get to eat the remaining sweets!



Building the Berlin Wall / July 1962 / Credit: Gert Schuetz / akg-images / Universal Images Group / For Education Use Only. This and millions of other educational images are available through Britannica Image Quest. For a free trial, please visit www.britannica.co.uk/trial



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Teaching notes

This is a memorable lesson that students will continue to talk about! You will need to provide the construction materials - i.e. sweets and biscuits.

Please ensure that you check for allergy sufferers (e.g. nuts) before the lesson. If there are any allergies, ensure that your sweets/biscuits are appropriate.

The task involves groups of students creating the Berlin Wall using biscuits and sweets which suit the different elements. For example, Berlin could be represented by a pastry case, or large biscuit; Custard Creams or Bourbon biscuits could be the wall, red jelly babies/skittles could be East Germans, strawberry laces could represent barbed wire etc). You can be prescriptive or let their imaginations run wild!

You could start by showing this clip www.bbc.co.uk/history/places/berlin_wall (4:36) explaining the context and building of the wall or read a textbook. Then construction can commence!

After the construction phase students then reflect and write about what they can learn about the construction of the wall. Then they get to eat the fruits of their work.

Here are some examples:

