

<p>Knowledge organiser: the Russian Revolution</p>	<p>The Bolsheviks overthrew the Provisional Government in October 1917; their aim was to make Russia a communist country.</p>	<p>Karl Marx was a German writer who believed that the workers were being exploited by their bosses. He said that the workers would rise up against the bosses and take control of the factories.</p>	<p>Russian society before the revolution was very unfair. There was a handful of very rich nobles but 80% of the population was made up of peasants. A growing number of peasants had moved to cities such as Moscow and St Petersburg to work in factories. The living and working conditions in these cities were very bad.</p>
<p>Timeline</p> <p>1905 Attempted revolution</p> <p>1914 WW1 begins</p> <p>1915 Tsar Nicholas II takes personal command of the army</p> <p>1916-17 Very harsh winter</p> <p>1917 March Revolution: the Tsar is forced to abdicate and a Provisional Government takes over, planning to make Russia a democracy April Lenin returns to Russia October revolution: the Bolsheviks overthrow the Provisional Government</p> <p>1918-21 The Russian Civil War</p>	<p>The Provisional Government was set up to rule Russia after the Tsar abdicated; their plan was to turn Russia into a democracy. However, their decision to carry on fighting in WW1 made them very unpopular.</p>	<p>Tsar Nicholas II was a poor leader; one of his worst decisions was to personally lead the Russian army in WW1.</p>	
<p>Key people</p> <p>Tsar Nicholas II – the emperor of Russia from 1894 to 1917.</p> <p>The Tsarina – Alexandra, the wife of Tsar Nicholas II.</p> <p>Rasputin – a faith healer who had a lot of influence over the Tsarina because he seemed to be able to cure her son’s life-threatening illness.</p> <p>Lenin – the leader of the Bolsheviks.</p>	<p>Political terms</p> <p>Tsar – the Russian word meaning emperor</p> <p>Autocracy – rule by one person with complete power</p> <p>Revolution – the overthrow of a government which is replaced by a government that aims to make huge changes</p> <p>Peasant – a poor farmer; peasants made up 80% of the Russian population and very few of them owned their own land.</p> <p>Worker – someone who works in a factory and lives in a town or city</p> <p>Communism – a political system based on the ideas of Karl Marx. In the perfect communist society, everyone would work together for the common good, everyone would be equal and there would be no need for money.</p> <p>Parliament – a group of people elected (chosen) by the people of the country; they usually discuss and vote on whether to pass laws and examine the work the government is doing.</p> <p>State – the government of a country</p> <p>Government – the group of people who make decisions about how the country is run; there is usually a group called the ‘Cabinet’ which is made up of ministers, each in charge of a different aspect of the country.</p> <p>Bolsheviks – a political party (group) inspired by Karl Marx; they wanted a revolution to turn Russia into a communist country as soon as possible.</p> <p>Abdicate – when a king or queen gives up the throne</p> <p>Democracy – rule by the people; this usually involves the people of a country voting for people to represent them and make decisions for them about how to rule the country.</p>		
<p>Challenge: background/research topics</p> <p>Tsar Alexander II and his assassination in 1881.</p> <p>The 1905 revolution: why it happened, what happened and its consequences.</p> <p>Opposition groups: the Bolsheviks, the Mensheviks, the Social Revolutionaries and the Cadets.</p> <p>Loyalist groups: the ‘Octobrists’</p>		<p>Challenge: political terms</p> <p>Duma</p> <p>Left-wing</p> <p>Socialist</p>	