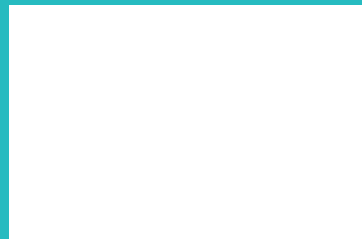


Disclaimer

Sensitive and/or upsetting topics may emotionally impact your students due to past experiences. You should consider whether this content is appropriate and ensure adequate support is available for anyone affected.

Public Mourning on the Death of HM Queen Elizabeth II



Public Mourning on the Death of HM Queen Elizabeth II

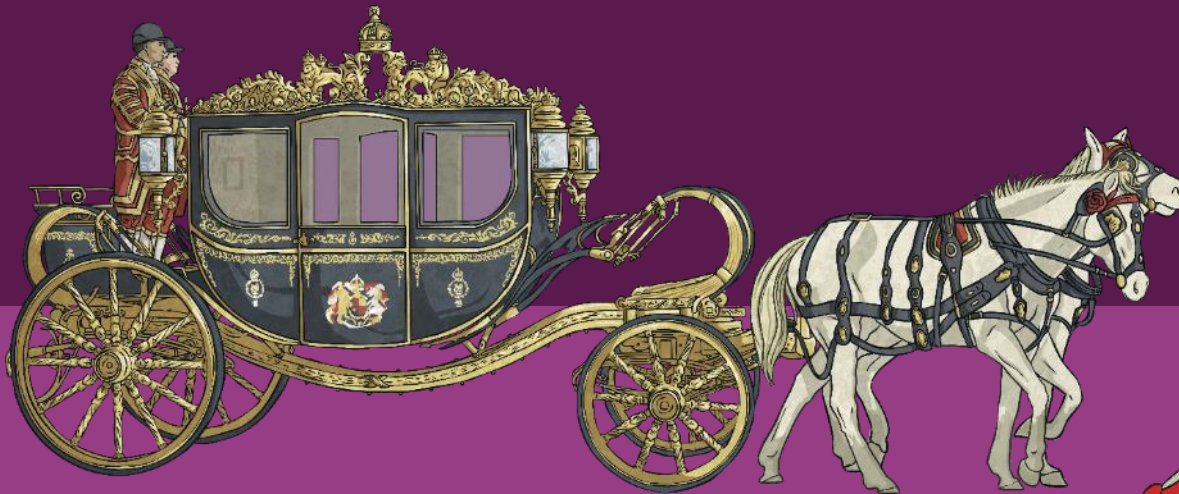
Born: 21st April 1926

Died: 8th September 2022



Aims

- To understand what is meant by the terms 'public grief' and 'public mourning'.
- To understand the ways in which people mourn differently.
- To recognise and manage our own grief on the death of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II.

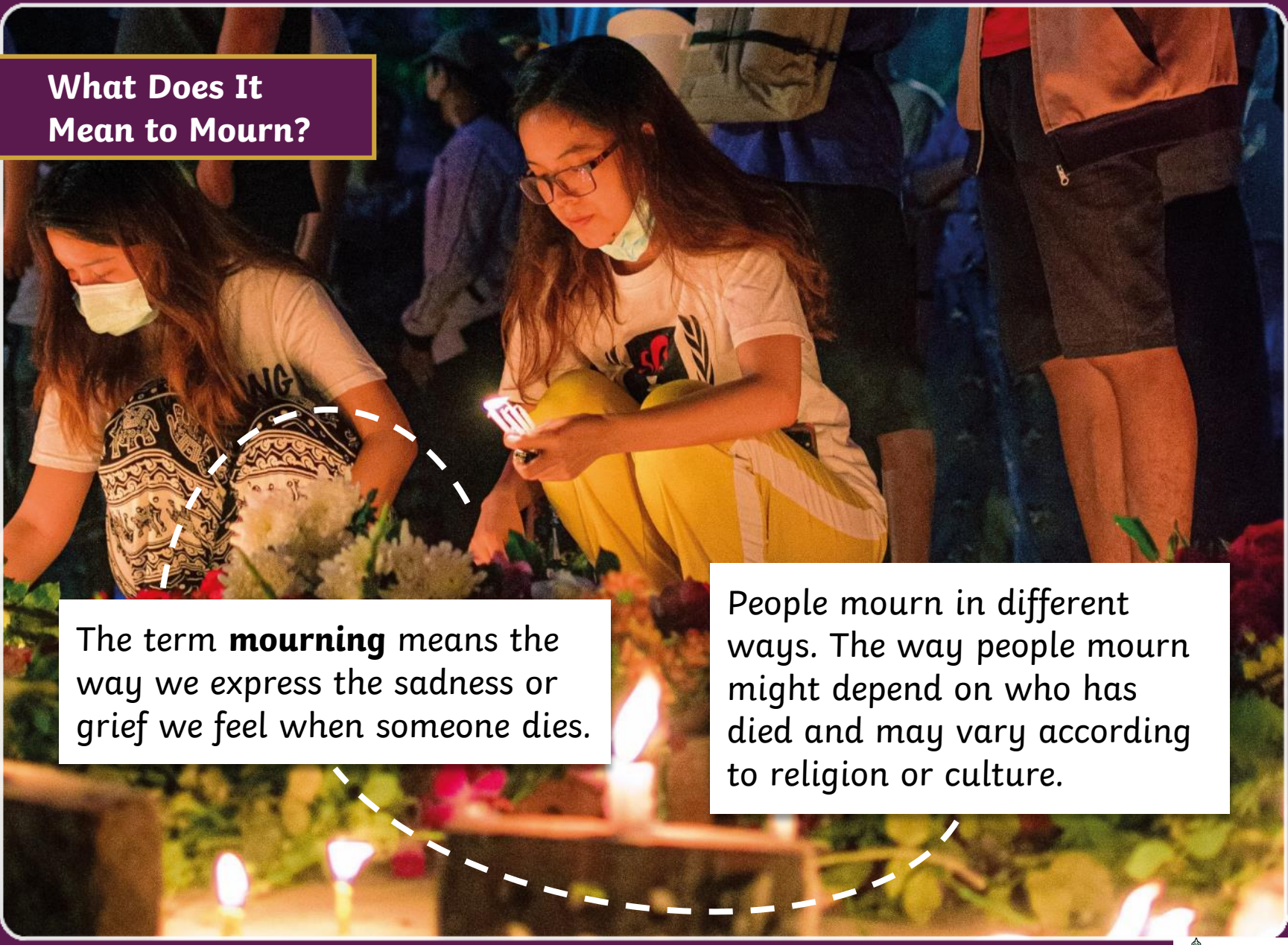


What Is Grief?

When we lose someone dear to us or learn about someone dying, it is normal to experience some form of **grief**.

Grief is a type of sadness or sorrow and can be a very powerful emotion. If the person who has died was someone who was very special to us, the grief we feel will be more intense.

What Does It Mean to Mourn?

A photograph of two young women at a memorial service. The woman on the left is wearing a white t-shirt with a black and white patterned design and a white face mask. She is looking down at a bouquet of white flowers. The woman on the right is wearing a white t-shirt with a black and red graphic, yellow pants, and glasses. She is holding a lit candle in her hands. In the background, other people are visible, some wearing face masks. The scene is dimly lit, suggesting an indoor or nighttime setting.

The term **mourning** means the way we express the sadness or grief we feel when someone dies.

People mourn in different ways. The way people mourn might depend on who has died and may vary according to religion or culture.

What Is Public Grief?

Public grief means sharing the grief we feel when an individual or a group of people dies. Rather than keeping our grief to ourselves, we talk about it with others who are feeling the same way.

Grieving with others can provide support for those experiencing intense sadness.

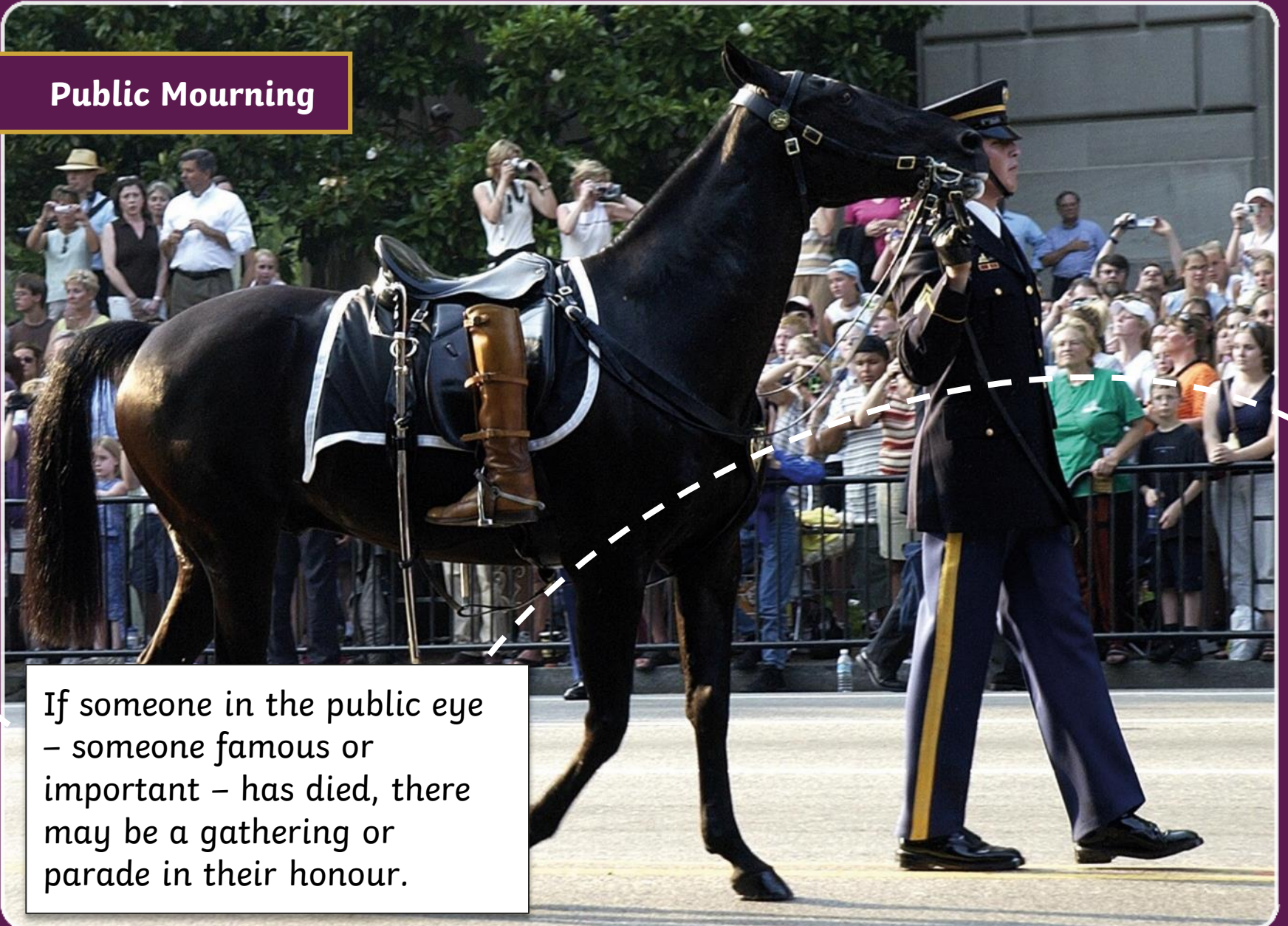
How Do We Mourn?

When people are collectively feeling saddened by a death, they may mourn in a public way with others.

One way many people mourn the death of a loved one is to attend a funeral. This is a way to say goodbye to the person who has died.



Public Mourning



If someone in the public eye – someone famous or important – has died, there may be a gathering or parade in their honour.

Mourning the Death of Her Majesty

Many people around the world will be saddened by the news that Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II has died.

People will pay their respects in different ways.

This might involve visiting one of the places where The Queen lived or stayed, such as Buckingham Palace or Windsor Castle.

Mourning the Death of Her Majesty

Many people offer **floral tributes** as a way of mourning the death of Her Majesty, The Queen.

A background image showing two people's hands holding smartphones. One person is holding a gold iPhone, and the other is holding a blue smartphone. The image is framed by a purple border with white dashed lines.

Mourning the Death of Her Majesty

Some people mourn publicly online.

This might involve posting information, memories and feelings on social media.

Remember, if you see a post on social media that you disagree with, it's best to speak to a trusted adult.

The opinions people share on social media are not factual.

Different Ways to Mourn

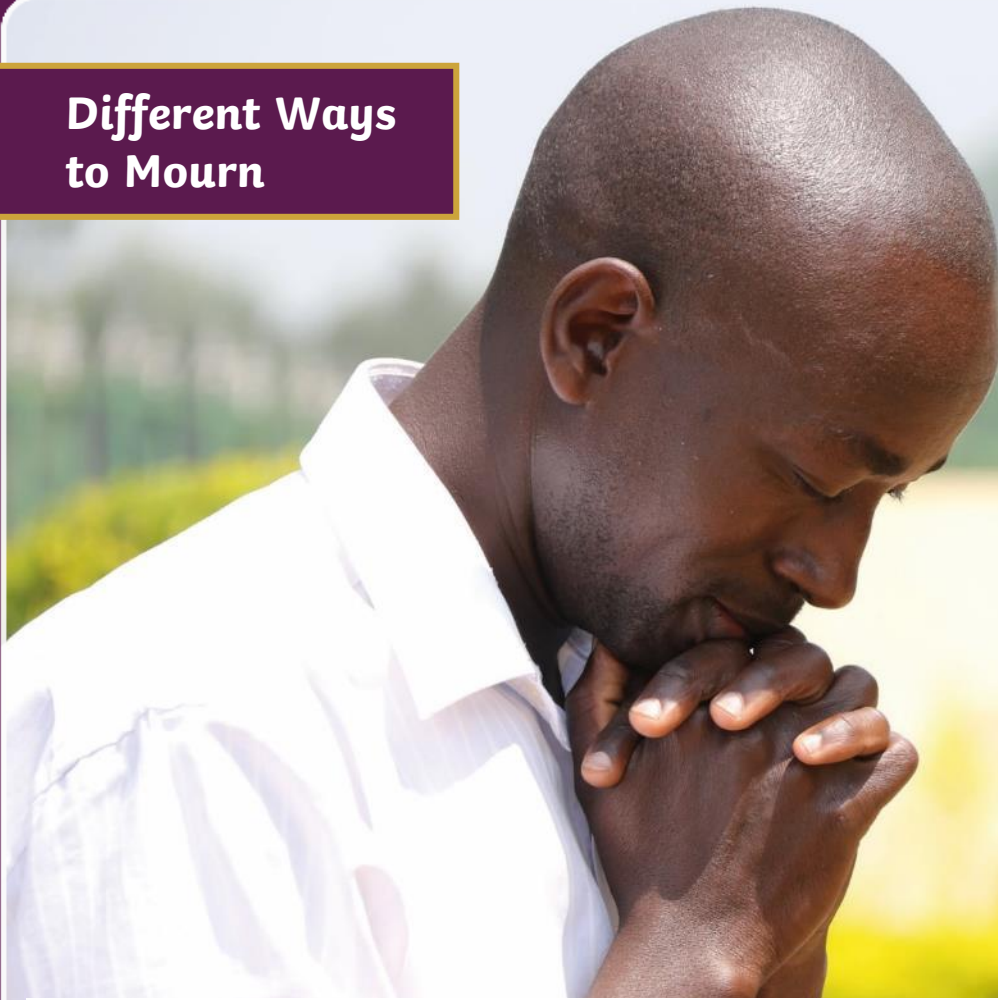
You might notice flags being displayed.

This is another way to publicly mourn the death of someone important to a country.

When someone has died, flags are flown at **half-mast** as a sign of respect.



Different Ways to Mourn



Other ways people mourn those who have died include saying prayers, lighting candles and visiting the site that marks the **deceased** person's grave.

A photograph of three young women sitting together outdoors, possibly in a garden or park. They are all looking down, appearing to be in a state of reflection or grief. The woman on the left is wearing a red and white striped shirt. The woman in the middle is wearing a light-colored, textured top. The woman on the right is wearing a light blue denim jacket over a white top. The background shows green foliage and some red flowers.

Mourning Together

Learning about grief and ways to mourn and talking about the death of such an important public figure will help us accept this sad news.

Even though we might not all be experiencing feelings as each other over the death of Her we can use this lesson as a time to grieve and mourn if we feel we need to.

We can then support one another with our feelings.

Discussion Time

We've thought a lot today about public grief and public mourning.

- Do you think you will mourn the death of Queen Elizabeth II?
- Do you understand why others might be grieving?
- Can public mourning help people?

Do you have any questions about what we have learnt today?

Glossary

deceased: Someone who has recently died.

floral tributes: A gift of flowers that are intended to show gratitude, respect or admiration.

half-mast: Half-mast means the flag is flown two-thirds of the way up the flagpole.

mourn: To feel or show sadness for someone's death. Different people mourn in different ways.

Born: 21st April 1926

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