

Discover (3)



Activities for Kids



FOUNDED IN 1828

GLASNEVIN
CEMETERY MUSEUM

Activity Pack 2 asked 'Who was the first woman to be elected to the British Parliament?' Did you know the answer?

It was **Constance Markievicz**.

Constance Markievicz was involved in many events, which you might have explored already. For example, during the **1913 Lockout** of workers in Dublin she ran a soup kitchen to feed those in need, and during the **1916 Easter Rising** she played a leading role in the Rising in an effort to get independence for Ireland (you can go to Activity Pack 1 to find out more about the Rising).



Did You Know?

- ✚ Constance had the title 'Countess' because she married a Polish Count by the name of Casimir Dunin-Markievicz.
- ✚ When she was elected she abstained (this means she did not take her seat in the British Parliament) as Ireland was ruled by Britain and as a Nationalist she wanted to get independence for Ireland.

She was part of the First Dáil in 1919.

But when was Constance Markievicz first elected?

Some historians say that part of the reason women received the vote in 1918, is because of the important role they played during the war. Women worked in factories and farms when men were away at war.

She was elected in 1918. This is a very important year in History. World War One ended (1914-18) and women in Ireland (and throughout Britain) over the age of 30, and who owned property, were given the right to vote for the first time.

Time to Think!

1. List and explain three different events that happened in 1918.

Hanna Sheehy-Skeffington

So now you know that many women in Ireland were finally given the right to vote in 1918. For many years before this, some women had **campaigned** for the right to vote. One of these women was Hanna Sheehy - Skeffington.

Hanna was a **suffragette**

With others, she set up the Irish Women's **Franchise** League and its aim was to achieve **equal** voting rights for women.



Did You Know?

- ✚ Hanna Sheehy married Francis Skeffington and they decided to take each other's surname, so they both used the surnames Sheehy-Skeffington.

Figure it Out!

Find all the words in the colour blue and write them into Box 1.

If you are using a copybook/page you can draw a box and write the words there.
Now match the words to the correct meaning in Box 2.

Box 1



Box 2

- Is another word that means 'the right to vote'.
- To treat people the same.
- They campaigned for the vote for women.
- To work towards something (to achieve a goal).

Did you Know?

- ✚ In 1922 the Irish Free State gave women equal voting rights to men.
- ✚ In 1893 New Zealand became the first country to give the right to vote to all women.

Constance Markievicz had a spaniel called Poppet that was often by her side. In Dublin, one statue of Constance Markievicz includes a sculpture of Poppet too.

