



National
Trust

Learning at Fountains Abbey and Studley Royal

Get stuck into history, science or art at this World Heritage Site

Why come to learn at Fountains Abbey and Studley Royal?

Discover many layers of history and culture in one place. From humble beginnings the magnificent abbey was established by devout monks seeking a simpler existence. The atmospheric ruins that remain are a window into a way of life which shaped the medieval world.

When the socially ambitious John Aislaby inherited Studley Royal, he set about creating an elegant water garden of mirror-like ponds, statues and follies, incorporating the romantic ruins into his design.

Green lawns stretch down to the riverside, riverside paths lead to the deer park with its ancient trees, butterflies flutter through the herb garden making the estate a wonderful place to search for and learn about wildlife in these historical and artistic settings.



What we offer for primary schools

- You can book a self-led school visit or a workshop session which our team will lead. Maybe visit for the whole day and do more than one activity.
- Admission charges apply though this is free with Education Group Membership (for details of the benefits of joining please visit <https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/features/educational-group-membership> and contact us to join; you can even join on the day of your visit).
- Led workshops are £2.50 per child(if you choose to do two i.e. one in the morning & one in the afternoon, the total cost is £4 per child).
- Please note that Art workshops are charged at £4 per child as they are full day.

Easily pick out which subject you'd like using the colours below

- History
- Art
- Science & Nature
- Cross-curricular
- Maths



Suitable for EYFS & Key Stage 1

Led workshop	Main areas of the National Curriculum covered
<p>Thomas Stories</p> <p>Hear stories about the life of Thomas, the novice monk, in the places where they would have taken place. Dressed as monks, your guide will show the children different parts of the abbey and share with them the different interactive stories of what happened to Thomas. (Duration 1½ - 2 hours depending on your group)</p>	<p>EYFS Communication & Language; Personal, social and emotional development; Literacy; Understanding the World KS1 English: Reading comprehension KS1 History: Significant historical events, people and places in pupils' own locality</p>
<p>Sensory trail (March – October only)</p> <p>We explore the abbey surroundings where you:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - collect natural colours to make your own rainbow - listen to sounds and record them in pictures (and words) - use your sense of touch to describe various materials – stone, wood, metal, plants - feel and smell the plants in the herb garden <p>We can adapt this to incorporate focusing on aspects of the current season. (Duration 1½ - 2 hours depending on your group)</p>	<p>EYFS Communication & Language; Physical Development; Personal, social and emotional development; Understanding the World Phonics for EYFS & KS1 KS1 Working scientifically: Observing closely; Identifying and classifying; Gathering and recording data Y1 Science: Seasonal changes & Everyday materials</p>
Self-led visit <i>Download the resources available on our website</i>	Main areas of the National Curriculum covered
<p>KS1 Tree trail</p> <p>Choose a route to take around the estate spotting different types of tree, taking bark rubbings, measuring trees, thinking about what lives in trees, what we use trees for and trees in stories.</p>	<p>Y1 Science: Plants Y2 Science: Living things and their habitats; Plants; Uses of everyday materials KS1 Maths: Measurement</p>
<p>Year 1 & Year 2 Maths trails</p> <p>Walk around the abbey doing some counting, measuring, and shape work.</p>	<p>KS1 Maths: Number and place value; Measurement; Geometry – properties of shapes</p>

Suitable for Key Stage 1 & Key Stage 2

Led workshop	Main areas of the National Curriculum covered
<p>Art – felt making</p> <p>Spend the morning sketching around Fountains Abbey and Studley Royal. After lunch, use your morning's sketches to inspire the design of your felt hanging. We use merino wool tops, which are in a glorious range of colours and unbelievably soft. Children usually work in teams on a group piece of work, which you can take back to school. We can extend the learning by discussing the properties of wool and the science behind felt making.</p> <p>(Duration – Full day workshop; maximum of 36 children per workshop)</p>	<p>KS1 Art and design: To use a range of materials creatively to design and make products; To develop a wide range of art and design techniques in using colour, pattern, texture, line, shape, form and space</p> <p>(KS1 Science: Everyday materials & Uses of everyday materials)</p> <p>KS2 Art and design: To create sketch books to record their observations and use them to review and revisit ideas</p> <p>(KS2 Science: Properties and changes of materials)</p>
<p>Art – mosaics making</p> <p>Use inspiration from sketches of the designs and colours in St Mary's Church or the abbey to create mosaics to take back to school. The children work in small groups, using mosaic tiles in a fantastic range of colours.</p> <p>(Duration – Full day workshop; Maximum of 36 children per workshop)</p>	<p>Art and design as above</p>

Den building

Children will work together in groups to build a den from natural materials. They will need to fit the whole group inside and pass the 'rain test' - a great way for children to bond and create lasting memories. We can extend the learning by discussing natural versus man-made materials and shelters through the ages, from stone age shelters to those of the early medieval monks and beyond.

(Duration 1½ - 2 hours)

KS1 & KS2 Design and technology: Design; Make; Evaluate; Technical knowledge

(Y1 Science: Everyday materials)

(Y2 Science: Uses of everyday materials)

(KS1&2 History: To know and understand the history of these islands as a coherent, chronological narrative.)

From minibeasts to mammals (March – October only)

We investigate living things, searching for signs and evidence of wildlife. Discover mice, vole and rabbit tunnels through the grass, insects visiting plants and flowers, cobwebs, feathers and fur as we walk along the bridle path to the deer park.

We catch minibeasts in pots with magnifying lenses to view them. In the deer park we search for and learn about the three types of wild deer. We also talk about the trees in the park.

Then we hunt for minibeasts amongst the fallen dead trees. At Swanley Grange Learning Centre, you can handle deer skins and antlers. We can extend the learning to talk about food chains and / or adaptation to habitat.

(Duration 1½ - 2 hours)

KS1 Science: Working Scientifically – Observing closely & Identifying and classifying.

Y1 Science: Plants; Animals, including humans

Y2 Science: Living things and their habitats; Plants; Animals, including humans

Y3 Science: Plants; Animals, including humans

Y4 Science: Living things and their habitats; Animals, including humans

Y5 Science: Living things and their habitats

Y6 Science: Living things and their habitats; Evolution and inheritance

Pond dipping (March – October only)

Enjoy a walk through the beautiful water garden then use nets to dip into ponds to find a wealth of pond life including newts, water snails, dragonfly nymphs and caddis fly larvae.

The children will have the opportunity to use identification keys and we can extend the learning to talk about food chains and / or adaptation to habitat.

(Duration 2 hours)

KS1 Science: Working Scientifically – Observing closely & Identifying and classifying

Y1 Science: Animals, including humans

Y2 Science: Living things and their habitats; Animals, including humans

Y3 Science: Animals, including humans

Y4 Science: Living things and their habitats; Animals, including humans

Y5 Science: Living things and their habitats

Y6 Science: Living things and their habitats; Evolution and inheritance

Waterwheels

Spend some time using our self-led resources to show your children around the mill and then a guide will work with them in the workshop to build their own waterwheel to see how they work and learn about what waterwheels are used for. We can extend the learning to talk about renewable energy including finding out about the ground source heat pump supplying the visitor centre.

(Duration 1½ - 2 hours)

KS1 History: Significant historical (events, people and) places in pupil's own locality

KS2 History: A local history study

KS1&2 Design and technology: Technical knowledge

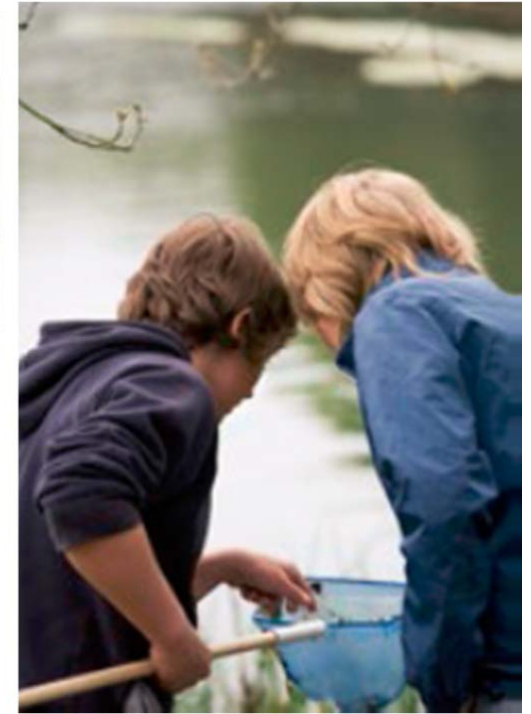
(KS2 Geography: describe and understand key aspects of human geography

Self-led visit <i>Download the resources available on our website</i>	Main areas of the National Curriculum covered
<p>Fountains Abbey self-led learning plan, Fun at Fountains & Fountains Timeline</p> <p>Easy and fun maps of the abbey to help you guide your children around.</p>	<p>KS1 History: Significant historical events, people and places in pupil's own locality</p> <p>KS2 History: A local history study</p>
<p>Fountains Hall trail</p> <p>Questions and activity sheet to use with your children as you explore this Elizabethan/Jacobean Hall. Teacher's notes and answers available.</p>	
<p>Mill & Porter's Lodge trail</p> <p>Questions and activity sheet to use with your children as you explore these areas of the abbey. Teacher's notes and answers available.</p>	
<p>Nature trail</p> <p>Choose a route to take around the estate spotting wildlife. Worksheets available to spot birds, deer, trees, pond life & bugs.</p>	<p>KS1 Science: Working scientifically – Observing closely; Identifying and classifying</p> <p>KS1 & KS2 Science: Plants / Animals, including humans / Living things and their habitats</p>

Suitable for Key Stage 2

Led workshop	Main areas of the National Curriculum covered
<p>Act the facts</p> <p>In this scripted drama, the children become different characters telling the entire story of the history of the abbey. Wearing their costumes, we act out the drama in various locations of the abbey to try to solve the mystery of ‘Who destroyed the abbey?’ The session concludes with a living timeline showing the characters in chronological order. N.B. Best for Upper KS2 due to the amount of reading in the play.</p> <p>(Duration 2½ hours; we can extend to 3½ hours with an introductory tour of the abbey)</p>	<p>KS2 History:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A local history study • A study of an aspect or theme in British history that extends pupil’s chronological knowledge beyond 1066 <p>KS2 English: Reading – comprehension</p>
<p>Day in the life of a monk</p> <p>Don monks' robes to investigate the medieval monks' way of life through role play and discussion.</p> <p>With our “Abbot”, you can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consider entering the monastery as novice Cistercian monks - Think about why it was a good place to build a monastery - Discover how often monks attended services, take part in a typical service and investigate the building - Find out about the chapter meeting, including punishments following confessions/accusations - Discover what a tonsure is and how often monks bathed • Investigate the lavatorium in the cloister - Consider what the monks could eat • Discuss why Henry VIII dissolved the monasteries and what became of the monks <p>(Duration 2 hours; we can extend to 3½ hours with an illuminated writing activity using quills & inks)</p>	

Led workshop at your school – separate costs apply	Main areas of the National Curriculum covered
<p>Mini Medics® – First Aid for Children</p> <p>Join us here where we have a trained member of staff to deliver this half day activity. This is a very basic introduction to First Aid and Defibrillation for children and aimed at children between the ages of 8 and 11, but it can suit children of any age. The course is kept at a basic level with no use of confusing terminologies. <i>Please contact us for further details and to discuss costs.</i></p>	<p>Links with Y3 & Y6 Science: Animals, including humans Citizenship & PSHE</p>
Self-led visit <i>Download the resources available on our website</i>	Main areas of the National Curriculum covered
<p>KS2 Tree trail</p> <p>Choose a route to take around the estate spotting different types of tree, taking bark rubbings, measuring trees, thinking about how trees reproduce and spread their seeds, what lives in trees, what we use trees for and trees in stories.</p>	<p>Y3 Science: Plants Y4-6 Science: Living things and their habitats KS2 Maths: Measurement</p>
<p>Y3-4 Maths discovery trail</p> <p>Walk around the abbey doing some estimating, measuring and comparing, shapes and symmetry.</p>	<p>KS2 Maths: Number & place value; Measurement; Geometry – properties of shapes</p>
<p>Y5-6 Maths discovery trail</p> <p>Walk around the abbey doing some estimating, measuring and comparing, shapes and symmetry.</p>	



Not what you were looking for?

Get in touch and we can discuss other options for your group.

Call Janet Anderson (Learning Officer) on 01765 643196 or email janet.anderson@nationaltrust.org.uk

Cover image by Andrew Butler