

The SALISBURY
MUSEUM



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OUR SALISBURY MUSEUM

We have a new learning offer to accompany our newly opened local and natural history galleries – read on to find out more!



Background to the project.

The opening of the new Devenish Bradshaw history of Salisbury galleries, Natural History and Ceramics galleries in 2024 is the culmination of a number of years National Lottery funded work, to both create amazing new displays but also to put community at the heart of what we create and offer at The Salisbury Museum. This has included the development of our new learning offer, where staff have worked with our learning community to research and create new ways of working with you, to enrich and support your classroom learning, with an offer that includes both exciting school trips and continuing outreach work, stand-alone sessions and mini projects. Post Covid, and with our existing Wessex Gallery offer meeting your current history pre 1066 curriculum needs, we wanted to focus on enrichment, cross-curricular work, as well as local history projects, building pride and aspiration as well as supporting curricular learning.

This learning pack will focus particularly on the EYFS, KS1 and KS2 learning programme. There is a separate learning pack showcasing our exciting new KS3-KS5 work.

Why local and natural history?

Local history is unique in its ability to bring history to life by locating it in places we know. It can also improve the depth with which we know those places, by telling us the stories of people who lived in the area before we did. Imagine a dramatic historical event not happening miles away in a place your students can't picture, but on a street or the site of a place you now know as a park, that they might walk through every day! It is a lot easier to picture history and empathise when it is somewhere you know.

By enriching our knowledge of the places around us, of their stories and past lives, local history can also help build a sense of pride and belonging in our communities. Recent studies have shown how important this sense can be for aspiration building, confidence and greater wellbeing for young people. If you feel you are part of the story of where you live, then you feel more agency and ownership of your life within it. We want The Salisbury Museum to also be a place where your students feel they belong, where they are part of its story going forward with real agency in their learning.

The new Salisbury galleries tell the story of the city and surrounding area from 1220 to the present day. Visitors are taken on a time-travelling adventure, starting with finds from our medieval waterways and Clarendon Palace, right up to Novichok and a dramatic concluding display of our beloved Salisbury Giant. The Natural History galleries also tell a local story though, exploring our amazing local landscapes and habitats from grass downland to our rare chalk streams and the animals that live and have lived there from prehistory to now. Ideally suited to both STEM and creative learning with all their potential for stories and art, the gallery explores issues that really matter to young people today such as biodiversity and climate change.

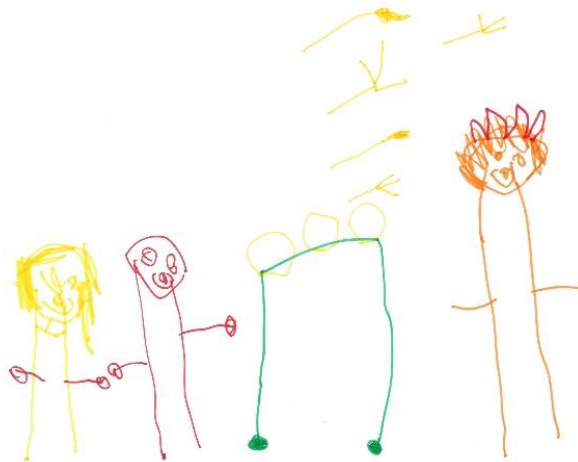
EYFS (also suited to KS1) - how we approached it and what we did.



Over the past two years we have run a number of pilot projects co-developed with both local pre-schools and Spurgeons children's centres. This entailed visiting pre-schools weekly to get to know staff and children, develop and test out ideas as well as creating immersive days for parents and children. We wanted to create an offer that was both fun and pedagogically interesting, which led to a real focus on child development, our relation to objects that are important to us and story creating as well as telling. This has led to...

What you can book!

- **Create your own museum inspired book** – a creative mini project building story creating skills inspired by the characters in the museum, includes illustration workshop and a finished booklet to take home – one site visit plus outreach follow up. This could work for both the Salisbury and Natural History galleries.



- **Our favourite things** – this session looks at the objects that mean the most to us. Children get the chance to share a special belonging, look at what might be in a

museum, create a display where they live and a story about them. Available as outreach.

- **Past and present, old and new** – what makes something old? What do past present and future mean? By looking at old objects and comparing them to new ones, children explore these concepts. Story creating and memory sharing/what we are looking forward to, can also be used.
- **Create your own imaginary wild garden** – children learn about our local landscape and its creatures, before creating the own with art and story creating. Available as outreach or onsite with a visit to our Natural History gallery.



KS1 – KS2.

We have worked extensively with two pilot schools to co-create a new learning offer that local children can feel they are part of and that teachers feel works for them. We have run taster sessions and after school clubs as well as consultation meetings with children and adults.

Our existing Wessex Galleries already cater for your history curriculum needs with their pre 1066 focus, which gave us a real opportunity to enrich our offer with the new galleries. From still serving the history curriculum with inspiration for local history studies, to scope for creative enrichment and cross-curricular work, we hope that what we have created will suit your needs and as it continues to evolve, that you and your students' ideas will continue to feed into it and its community spirit.

What you can book!

- **Local history studies**

We are used to thinking about history as something long ago and often far away – a fascinating subject that can also seem distant. But sometimes the most exciting stories are closer than we think, are those we can connect to the places around us and the people who have lived in them. We want your students to feel that they are part of the story of this city – the latest chapter in hundreds of years of local history.

The Salisbury Galleries bring to life the story of the city and its surrounding area from 1220 until the present day, from the fascinating finds in our lost medieval waterways, our iconic Giant, pilgrims, magic, everyday life, industry, plague, wars – these national and international events happened on our doorstep too. We want your school to feel that the galleries are there as a resource for you to discover the stories of the place you call home. With this in mind we now have available to book an exciting new range of both stand-alone sessions and supported mini-projects, covering both the history curriculum in terms of local history studies, but also a wider cross curricular approach to your history learning.

- **Option One: Immersive kick-starter day for enquiry-led local history projects:**

Suitable for KS1 and KS2 children will be invited to the museum to discover the amazing local stories the new Devenish Bradshaw History of Salisbury galleries hold. Starting with a gallery explore (utilising our new trails) the children will then have a more focused workshop experience, creating work inspired by what they have discovered.

The focus can be tailored in terms of the extent of it being child or specific agreed theme led. For example the more child-led version would include a general introduction to some of the local stories in the galleries and then the children following their fascinations, choosing the stories and objects that interest them most to explore further, creating agency and enquiry skills. Alternatively the session can be designed to explore a particular theme in advance, e.g. the Giant, Clarendon Palace, the waterways, health, work and industry, crime and punishment, war and peace etc.

The gallery explore will be followed by a creative session inspired by their discoveries. Children will each leave with their own miniature project book, a history explorer's journal, full of their ideas to inspire further work back in school.

There is the option for teachers of an advance planning visit to discuss your class's potential project. We are keen to give you the bespoke experience you need, to best inspire your students.

- **Option two – longer local history supported project:**

This immersive day can stand alone as an exciting inspirational school trip, but for a more in depth study the kick-starter day can be booked with a series of follow up outreach visits to further support your local history study. For example you might come to the museum open to what topic most inspires the children, and then use these follow up visits to hone your project on a specific theme, or to facilitate a meaningful creative outcome with more of an enrichment focus, such as a booklet or exhibition involving art and creative writing as well as history learning.

Bookable sessions that work with local history studies:

- **Lost and found – the story of Salisbury's lost waterways**

Did you know that water once flowed down the streets of Salisbury? This has been one of the best loved facts that young people discovered during our consultation. During this session children will learn about what Salisbury looked like during medieval times, up to Victorian changes when the waterways were filled in and over 1000 objects were found that had been lost or thrown away in the water. Children will get to see and maybe even handle objects from the collection before designing and creating a collage of their own drainage collection based on what they might lose today – what might an alien coming in the future find from our lives?



- **The Time-Travelling Giant**

Christopher, our beloved Salisbury Giant, has lived in the city for at least 500 years, witnessing its history and being present at key moments of community celebration and commemoration. Perfect for a local area through time study, this mini project (also available as the theme of a local history kick-starter day) will take students through key moments in Salisbury's history that

the Giant has been present at, from coronations and jubilees, to the Children's Peace Pageant of 1919. Children will get a sense of the timeline of the city's history, helping introduce ideas of chronology, as well as seeing real photos from our archive of past parades, from the 19th through to the 20th centuries. This mini project, when run as outreach, can take place over up to six sessions, culminating in a choice of creative outcomes showcasing the students design for their own pageant. Options include a collaborative art piece for your wall, drama and a booklet of creative writing including stories or a programme. Please feel free to contact us to discuss what would work best for you. What would you celebrate today?



- **Pageant Giants** – an additional Giant themed session, this looks at Christopher's place in the wider European pageant giant tradition, introduces students to other giants., culminating in the creation of your own class pageant design for the city today.
- **Clarendon Palace – the lives of medieval Kings and Queens**

This session will introduce your students to Clarendon Palace and the key monarchs who visited there, King Henry II and Queen Eleanor of Aquitaine, King Henry III and Queen Eleanor of Provence. We will explore what the palace would have been like to visit, interior and garden design (including a chance to see real medieval decorated tiles), medieval pastimes and the changing landscape of what was once a huge Royal hunting forest. Children will have then have the chance to design their own medieval palace including mythical creatures to decorate the tiles.



- **The Car**

This session is based on one of Salisbury Museum's largest artefacts – a 1912 'Scout' car, built in Salisbury and from 2024 displayed in the museum for the first time. This is designed as a hook which can be added upon in whichever way the attending group shows interest in. Many avenues can be taken from this start point. The session is cross curricular and can be focussed in many different ways.

- **WWI – How the Great War involved Everyone.**

The objectives are to provide a greater understanding of how war imposed itself on everyone, ranging from the soldiers in the trenches, to the community at home.

The session encourages an emotional response to WWI, adding extra dimension to the historic facts learnt in the classroom. A better understanding is also demonstrated of how historians use primary resources to build a picture of events in the past.

Resources for this session include a handling collection of everything familiar to a serving soldier ranging from personal belongings, fighting equipment, diet and military ephemera. A collection of KS2 sized replica costumes which reflect the roles which both men and women took in the war effort and encourage empathy with that time is also used to bring a more personal response to the topic.

Other potential themes for local history studies:

All the above sessions and projects work well as part of your enquiry led local history studies and encourage a creative approach and are adaptable to your class's needs. We want your students to feel empowered and enthusiastic about their new local area knowledge and our supportive approach is designed to help build confidence and aspiration – a sense of pride and belonging in community. We are always happy to discuss how to tailor the new galleries and this learning offer to support what you want to discover and create. With this in mind there are a number of additional ideas listed below which we can support you with and create bespoke projects and sessions.

- Women's history – not just suffragettes! An in focus look at one or a selection of the fascinating women whose story is told in our local history galleries. This includes women in world war one, Queens, scientists, teachers, writers and even witches!
- The children's peace pageant of 1919.
- Health – themes covered in the galleries include everything from plague and cholera, to research into the common cold and Novichok.
- World war two and the secret spitfire factory
- The Swing Riots - a look at the rural impact of the industrial revolution

Natural History Sessions (available onsite and as outreach):

- **Rewild the city**

What would your city look like if it went back to nature? In this session children will get the chance to discover the animals and plants native to the area, explore ideas around biodiversity and rewilding and design their own future rewilded city. Mixing STEM learning, creative writing skills through world building and art, the outcome of this session will be a large-scale art piece of their rewilded Salisbury.

- **A tale of our wild creatures – an animal's point of view**

This session has both a STEM and creative writing focus. Children will learn about their local wildlife past and present, from otters to butterflies, falcons to fish, and the issues it faces in today's world due to climate change and biodiversity loss. They will then create characters that are these animals and create a piece of writing about them, their challenges and adventures, increasing empathy and understanding of our local natural world. How do birds see the world. What super-senses might you discover? What is it like to run as fast as a hare? How have writers in the past explored this? The outcome for this session is either an individual or group collaborative illustrated booklet to take home. This session can also be tailored around a particular habitat, such as our chalk streams or grass downlands.

For more information, an initial discussion or to book a session please contact Project Learning Officer Alice Maddicott alicemaddicott@salisburymuseum.org.uk

Ongoing learning community project – create a friend for the Giant!



As part of our new learning programme to celebrate our community we have created a special evolving ongoing learning project to make a new family for our Salisbury Giant. A number of schools have already taken part, but we want this family to continue to grow over a number of years, so it is never too late to take part!

Once upon a time, 500 years ago The Salisbury Giant roamed the streets of the city, taking part in parades and pageants, helping people celebrate Jubilees, Coronations and much more. Then in the 20th century he retired, making his home with Hob Nob the Hobby Horse in the Salisbury Museum. The Salisbury Giant has lived in the museum for many years now, but he is a bit lonely and stuck - he hasn't even had a door he can fit through to get out!

The Museum has been refurbished and now the Giant has a new home to help make him feel better, but it is still a bit of a sad story. There are giants all over the world that parade to celebrate their home towns and cities. Traditionally Giants have lots of giant friends and family to parade with them, but our Giant only has Hob Nob, who is very cheeky... Can you help?

As a special surprise for the Giant we want your school to create your own giant friend for him, so he has a new Salisbury family. It could be another giant, or it could be some other kind of mythical creature. We can help by visiting your school for a creative character creating and art workshop – we are very excited to hear your ideas! After you have created them, get to know them better. Why not invite them on a school trip with you, write the story of their life, take them to assembly? We want to build a new family for the Giant, celebrating our community today, welcoming him into this latest chapter of the city. He is all of our Giant, let's help him feel happy in his new home.

The Giant also wants to meet you! As part of this project you will be invited to bring your created friend for the Giant to introduce them at the museum. Imagine how excited he is going to be!