

Explore Queen Street Mill: Information for teachers

About this learning resource

This is a set of activity cards that aims to help your class explore Queen Street Mill inside and out. The activities support history, literacy, science and geography at Key Stage 2, but may be adapted for younger or older pupils.

There are six activity cards, each designed to be used in groups of around five pupils. The cards can be completed in any order. Each activity card in the set has a different focus:

Card title	Focus
Where are we?	The plan of Queen Street Mill as viewed from above.
What is this place made of?	The materials used to construct the mill, and their properties.
What is this place for?	The weaving shed and how the architecture enabled weavers to do their work.
How has this building changed?	The development of the Queen Street Mill site, as revealed by maps and aerial photos.
What can buildings tell us?	The role of the mill in shaping the local area's identity.
Who was here?	The weavers, boiler men and engineers who worked here; comparing their experiences of the building.

What to bring with you

- The activity cards, printed double sided – at least 1 set for the class (1 set of cards per group is best).
- Pencils or pens – at least 1 per child
- Exercise books/sketchbooks/6 sheets of plain paper + clipboard – 1 per child
- Camera(s) if possible
- Lots of adult helpers!

How to use the activity cards

- The activities are designed to be self-led and can be done without any facilitation by Queen Street Mill staff. If you need help, do ask a member of staff who will assist as much as they can.

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- Teachers may wish use all of the cards, or select a few. You are welcome to adapt activities to suit your class.
- We suggest that, after a safety briefing, the class is broken into six groups. Each group is given a set of cards, each set starting with a different card. Groups should be allocated an amount of time to spend on each activity card, after which they should move on to the next activity card. The class should regroup at a time and location decided by the teacher, to share their discoveries.
- Each group must have an adult helper who will supervise the group and read out the instructions on the cards.

Safety

The class teacher is responsible for pupils' behaviour and safety at all times, and should conduct a risk assessment before bringing the class to visit. Please note:

- Some activities take place outdoors. Pupils should have appropriate footwear.
- Some activities are indoors. Pupils must not run, and must not touch the machines or the boiler.
- Pupils should stay together with their group, in view of their adult.
- Pupils must be mindful of other groups and members of the public.

Queen Street Mill contact details

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Harle Skye
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<http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/leisure-and-culture/museums/queen-street-mill-textile-museum.aspx>

Explore other sites

There are more historic buildings in Pennine Lancashire to explore using activity cards like these. For more information about these wonderful places, visit:

<http://www.wonderful-things.org.uk>