

Blackburn Museum & Art Gallery – Schools Sessions Local History (Life in a Victorian Town)

The History curriculum at KS1 allows you to teach “a study of an aspect of history or a site dating from a period beyond 1066 that is significant in the locality.”

From its beginning, the textile industry was at the heart of the Industrial Revolution and it centred on the towns of Pennine Lancashire. We have produced a session using a series of activities to introduce children to the changes that happened locally and saw Lancashire towns like Blackburn and Burnley become some of the most prosperous towns in Britain and the world.

If you want to emphasise a particular aspect of local history, please discuss this with our staff when you make your booking.

Aims:

- To get children to appreciate that their locality has changed over the years,
- For the children to understand the ways in which their local area has changed in the past,
- To introduce the children to the history of the textile industry in Blackburn.

Content:

1. Meet and greet pupils and staff,
2. Housekeeping 05 minutes
3. Introduction 10 minutes
The early history of Blackburn as told by the objects and maps that we have. The changes brought to the area during the Victorian period and why?
4. Carousel of activities 75 minutes
The children are divided into three groups and then do each of three activities, one after another, these are:
 - Cotton Town – The children can dress up as Victorians, explore the gallery and have their picture taken, (25 minutes)
 - The lives of the people – Exploring our Local History gallery finding out more about local events. At KS2 the children have a worksheet but at KS1 this is more teacher led; we provide a copy of the worksheet with all the answers for the teacher. In addition, there are 14 bees hidden in the cases for the children to find, (25 minutes)

- Sketching the past – The children can handle and photograph/sketch/film objects from our collection. Again, this is teacher-led and we provide paper, pencils, crayons etc as well as a large number of objects to look at and hold (25 minutes)
- 6. What have we learned? 05 minutes
A Q & A where we quiz the children as to what they have learnt about how things have changed in the past.
- 7. Pack up and leave 05 minutes

Evaluation: we always appreciate your feedback and we'd be grateful if you would fill in one of our evaluation forms before you leave.

Supporting materials: we have a series of loan boxes available which contain Victorian domestic items from the local area, some of which are used in this session, you can use any of these to support your lessons either before you visit or afterwards. All our boxes cost £20 for a two week loan.