

THAMES
EXPLORER
TRUST

2020

Using the River Thames as an outdoor classroom

2019/20
River
Education
Programmes

www.thames-explorer.org.uk 020 8742 0057

Explore the Thames

For details of all our school programmes including the latest news visit our website www.thames-explorer.org.uk

We are a charity that raises awareness of the river through a range of educational activities.

For 30 years we have been using the River Thames as a valuable, outdoor learning tool. Not only are the River Thames and its tributaries a major wildlife corridor, but their banks are steeped in history making it ideal for studying a range of subjects. Thousands of people investigated the Thames with us last year and took part in one of our programmes.

Our programmes

Our programmes are either full or half day. Full day programmes involve both classroom and outdoor work and usually take place from 10am to 2.30pm (we can be flexible if the tides allow). Half day courses are 2 hours of field-work with start and finish times being tide dependent.

Our programmes take place at different key sites of interest along the tidal Thames where the foreshore is selected to best suit the subject. Refer to our programme table on the next page to see which courses run at which sites.

We provide

- A range of programmes from KS1 to KS5.
- Activities that support the National Curriculum programmes of study in science, geography, citizenship, history and creative arts.
- Programmes which address the National Curriculum objectives in English and Maths.
- SEND programmes.
- Programmes for pupils not in mainstream education.
- Outreach programmes.
- Fieldwork throughout the year led by experienced staff.
- Learning resources.
- Advice on planning a river visit including pre-site visits.
- Inset training.

2019/20 programme overview

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Prices 2019/20

Full day programme

2 hours fieldwork and 2 hours of indoor activities and a lunchroom

£350 per class* (maximum 30 pupils)

Half day programme

2 hours of fieldwork with no lunchroom (see also lunch rooms for half day visits below)

£220 per class* (max 30 pupils)

*Additional charges may apply to programmes run at weekends.

Lunchrooms for half day visits

Lunchrooms are available at all sites except Southwark, the Old Royal Naval College and the Millennium Bridge. A free lunchroom is provided at the Museum of London Docklands.

£20 per class (max 30 pupils)

River of Life outreach programme

£350**(max 4 classes of 30 per day)

Port of London outreach programme

Free to qualifying state schools, £350 to all other schools** (max 3 classes of 30 per day)

**Additional charges may apply for visits to schools outside Greater London.

Culture Mile, School Visits Fund

You may qualify for up to £300 off the cost of attending one of our programmes at the Museum of London or Museum of London Docklands, through the Culture Mile School Visit Fund. For details, and to complete a simple application go to: www.schoolvisitsfund.org.uk

Cancellation policy

To cancel a booking you need to complete a cancellation form which can be downloaded from our website

www.thames-explorer.org.uk/schools-and-universities/booking

You will not be charged if you cancel four weeks in advance. If you cancel or reschedule after this time you may be liable for the full fee. Schools taking part in full day visits at the Old Royal Naval College need to give at least two months' notice.

How to book

You can find information about inclusion, health and safety, class size and supervision ratios on the next page or for more details visit our school website pages: www.thames-explorer.org.uk/schools-and-universities/booking

Step 1

Choose your preferred site, programme and month to visit.

Step 2

Phone 020 8742 0057 or email info@thames-explorer.org.uk to check availability and make a provisional booking.

Step 3

Once you have made a provisional booking we will send you a group details form. Complete and return the form (one per class) within 7 days. If we do not receive your form we will contact you before cancelling your visit.

Step 4

Acknowledge receipt of our confirmation email which will be sent together with an invoice, map and health and safety advice. Please note your trip is not confirmed until you have received this email.

Step 5

Forward the invoice to your accounts department. The invoice should be paid within 30 days.

Step 6

Contact us to arrange a pre-site visit.

“We had the best day. So well organised, thank you”

Year 2 teacher, Chiswick

Planning a visit

Inclusion

We aim to make all our programmes inclusive and all our river centres have disabled access. Unfortunately wheelchair access onto the foreshore can be tricky, especially at sites with step-only access. We are happy to provide alternative activities for pupils who are unable to accompany their class onto the foreshore. Please contact us to discuss options and to arrange a pre-site visit which must be conducted by the teacher leading the trip. To make the trip as effective as possible we need details of all pupils with SEND, EAL and medical conditions in advance of your visit. Please make sure that one-to-one support staff are not included in your adult-to-child ratios. We also have programmes available for SEND classes - for details see page 14.

Class size

Maximum class size is 30 pupils. Depending on the tide and programme we can have 2 classes on the same day at Chiswick, Greenwich, Kew Bridge, and Fulham Palace. For our half day programmes it may be possible to accommodate 2 classes (one in the morning and another in the afternoon) depending on the site and tides.

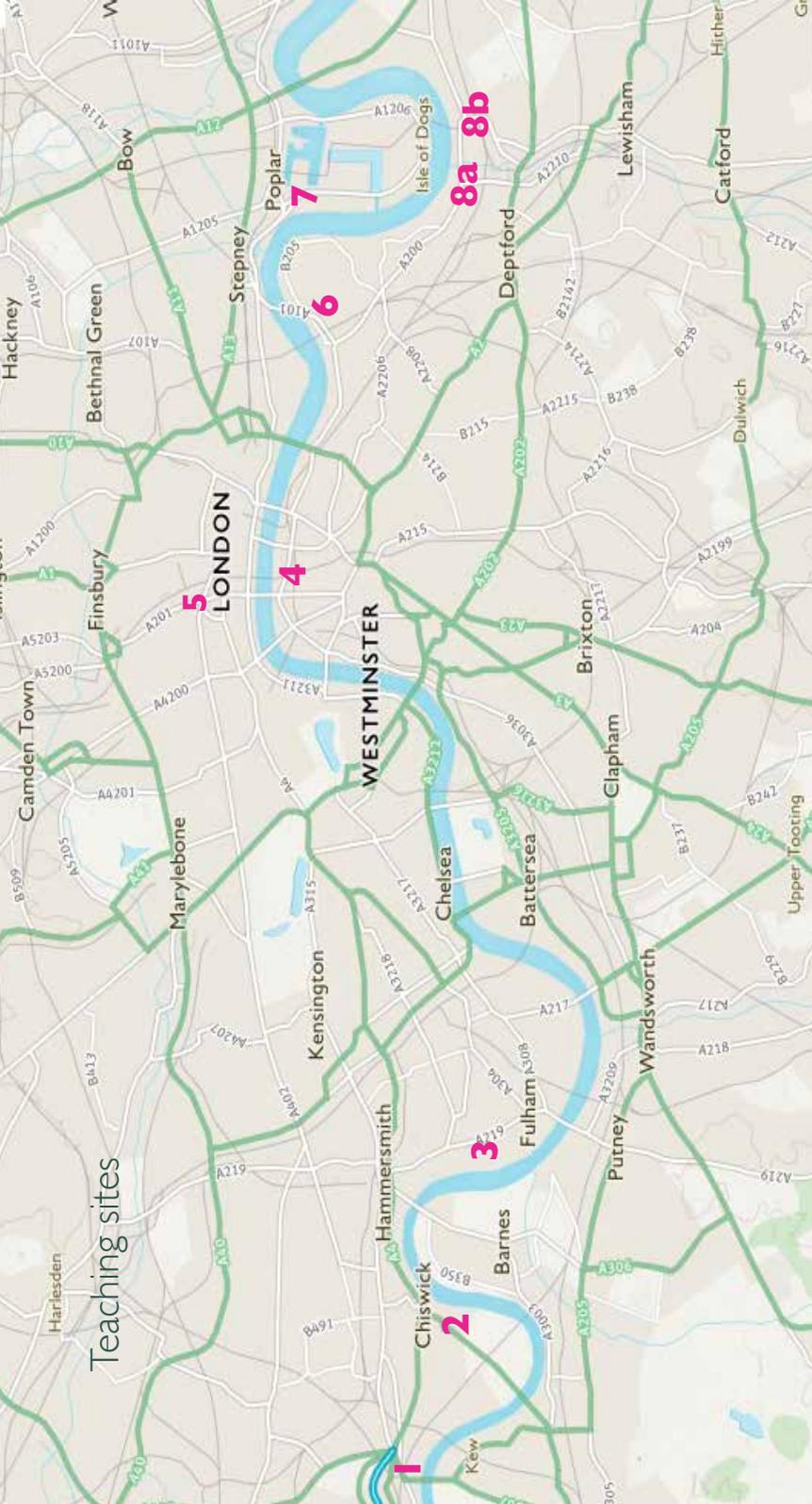
Supervision

Please read full details on our website or ask our team member when booking. Minimum adult to child ratios per class (excluding 1 to 1 support):

- Children under 8 years of age: 1 adult to 6 children.
- Recommended ratio for children over 8 years of age: 1 adult to 6 children.
- Minimum ratio for children over 8 years of age: 1 adult to 10 children.

Health & safety

The welfare of our visitors is of utmost importance to us. If you are concerned about health and safety please contact us. We can supply advice, safety guidelines and examples of risk assessments. It is the responsibility of the school to make sure pupils behave appropriately. All attending adults must provide close supervision at all times. We will send you safety advice with your confirmation pack and we advise you to arrange a pre-site visit before your trip. We regret we cannot take children under 5 years old onto the foreshore.



Teaching sites

- 1** Kew Bridge TW8 0EN
- 2** Chiswick Pier W4 2UG
- 3** Fulham Palace SW6 6EA
- 4** Southwark SE1 9DT
- 5** Museum of London & Millennium Bridge EC2Y 5HN
- 6** Rotherhithe SE16 4JD
- 7** Museum of London Docklands E14 4AL
- 8a** Greenwich Old Royal Naval College SE10 9LW
- 8b** Greenwich Trafalgar Rowing Centre SE10 9NP

“Afternoon on the
the River Thames
BRILLIANT!”
Year 5 teacher, Hampster

Education programmes

Key stage 1 Geography

Getting to Know the River (geography with history and science links)

Sites Chiswick, Kew Bridge

Duration Full day programme. Half days available on request.

This programme provides pupils with an opportunity to explore and experience their local environment.

Session 1 On the riverside, pupils develop geographical knowledge of the local river environment and its wildlife and observe how people use the river. Pupils make their own observations and carry out simple scientific tests (temperature, speed of flow and water quality). Bird-spotting on the riverside allows pupils to classify birds into carnivores, herbivores and omnivores. River dipping on the foreshore enables pupils to identify and compare different animals. Pupils will also get the chance to identify and describe the conditions of aquatic and terrestrial habitats, including microhabitats.

Session 2 Role play with the River of Life floor game involves creating a natural river habitat and looking at food chains. Pupils gain an understanding of the past by investigating river settlement and how people have used and harmed the river. Using drama pupils will explore

environmental issues and find “pollution solutions” to help devise a sustainable future for the Thames.

Key stage 1 (yr 2 only) History

Archaeology for All.

(history with geography links)

Sites Greenwich, Museum of London, Museum of London Docklands, Rotherhithe, Southwark

Duration Full day programme at all sites (except Southwark). Half days available on request.

Pupils will study the history of the local area employing the historical enquiry skills used by archaeologists. Pupils will discover how fragments of history can build up a picture of the past.

Session 1 On the riverside, pupils will develop an understanding of what the Thames is like today and gain knowledge of river geography. Fieldwork on the foreshore involves collecting and identifying historical artefacts as evidence of river settlement. The session will enable pupils to gain an understanding and awareness of the past and to compare it to the present.

Session 2 Indoor activities will enable pupils to learn how to distinguish between different materials and identify and date artefacts using specially

foreshore was great fun! History of
very interesting! Thank you! It was

read

designed sorting boards. Pupils will investigate how artefacts found around the Thames help us to build a picture of London's history from pre-history to present day.

Key stage 2 Geography

Rivers and Environmental Issues (with history and science links)

Sites Chiswick, Kew Bridge, Fulham Palace

Duration Full day programme. Half days available on request (except at Fulham Palace).

Session 1 Riverside fieldwork involves pupils using a range of scientific equipment to record simple abiotic data (temperature, depth, velocity, state of tide) and assess water quality through chemical tests. Pupils will observe river features including meanders and islands and river processes such as erosion, transportation and deposition. Pupils will use the local environment to gain experience in identifying and naming birds and recognise how they have adapted to their environment.

Plus session 1a Foreshore fieldwork: at low tide pupils will take part in river dipping, a chance to discover first-hand what lives in the river by collecting, identifying and observing fish and invertebrates. Water quality will be assessed by

biological indicators.

Session 2 Includes revision of geographical features and the water cycle. The River of Life floor game involves creating a natural river habitat and gaining an understanding of food chains and adaptations. Pupils will then look at how the river environment has changed over time and how pollution and human impact can pose a danger to living things. Through drama pupils will explore environmental issues and find "pollution solutions" to help devise a sustainable future for the Thames.

At Chiswick, high tide options 1b or 1c are available instead of 1a

Session 1b Riverside Challenge

Groups compete to answer quiz questions while exploring the riverside. This session aims to encourage pupils to raise questions about riverside settlement, changes in land use, flood protection, human impact and the natural environment.

Session 1c Meet the RNLI

Lifeboat Crew A great example of citizenship in action! Pupils will have the opportunity to visit the Chiswick Lifeboat Station, which is the second busiest in the RNLI fleet. Pupils will learn first-hand about features of a lifeboat, the crew's kit and what happens when the crew are called out to an emergency.



Kew



Chiswick



Southwark

Pupils will also learn how to prevent accidents by developing an understanding of water safety. Please note: Chiswick is an operational lifeboat station so occasionally the crew might have to leave promptly to answer an emergency call. For this reason pupils will not be able to board the lifeboat.

If you would prefer to do sessions 1a or 1b but would also like to visit the RNLI Lifeboat station, visits can be arranged separately with the RNLI. email chiswick@rnli.org.uk or phone 020 8995 5534.

Investigating Environmental Change

(with history and science links)

Sites Southwark, Greenwich

Duration Half day programme - no indoor facilities

This programme provides an opportunity to observe geographical features of the Thames and learn about river settlement and how it is linked into a wider historical context.

Session 1 Fieldwork on the riverside includes recording river features, using a range of scientific equipment to record simple abiotic data (temperature, velocity, state of tide) and assessing water quality through chemical testing. Pupils will use the local environment to gain experience in identifying and naming birds and understand how they

have adapted to the environment. The riverside trail provides pupils with an opportunity to explore, observe and carry out a local history study. Pupils will gather evidence of how the river environment has changed over time and how pollution and human impacts can pose a danger to living things. On the foreshore, pupils will collect historical artefacts to study river settlement and local history. Fieldwork aims to encourage pupils to raise questions about their local environment.

Investigating the Thames (with history and science links)

Sites Museum of London Docklands, Greenwich

Duration Full day programme. Half days available on request, except at Greenwich (see above for alternative half day programme at Greenwich).

Session 1 Fieldwork on the riverside and foreshore includes recording geographical features, using a range of scientific equipment to record simple abiotic data (temperature, velocity, state of tide) and assessing water quality through chemical testing. Pupils will use the local environment to gain experience in identifying and naming birds and recognising how they have adapted to their environment. On the foreshore, pupils will collect



historical artefacts, allowing them to gain an understanding and awareness of the past and compare it with the present. Fieldwork will encourage pupils to raise their own questions about their local environment.

Session 2 In the classroom pupils will carry out hands-on investigations using a range of resources including maps, photographs and historical artefacts to learn about geography, wildlife, flooding, settlement and environmental issues of the Thames. A riverside trail around the local area provides an opportunity to observe and learn about the geography of the River Thames and land use change and how this links to a wider historical context. We will conclude by discussing why the local area was once globally important. At Museum of London Docklands, if time allows, you can explore 'Sailor Town' – a recreation of the streets surrounding the old docks. Visiting Sailor Town is subject to your group bringing a change of clean shoes (a museum requirement).

Key stage 2 History

Archaeology for All (with geography links)

Sites Museum of London, Museum of London Docklands, Greenwich, Rotherhithe, Southwark, Fulham Palace

Duration Full day programme at all sites (except Southwark). Half days at all sites (except Fulham Palace).

Pupils will study the history of the local area employing the historical enquiry skills used by archaeologists. Pupils will discover how fragments of history can help build up a picture of the past.

Session 1 On the riverside, pupils will develop an understanding of what the Thames is like today and gain knowledge of river geography. Fieldwork on the foreshore involves collecting and identifying historical artefacts as evidence of river settlement. This session will enable pupils to gain an understanding and awareness of the past and compare it to the present day.

Session 2 Indoor activities will enable pupils to learn how to distinguish between different materials and identify and date artefacts using specially designed sorting boards. Pupils will investigate how artefacts found around the Thames help us to build a picture of London's history. By doing this they will gain a chronological knowledge from pre-history to present day.

“All parts (of the visit) were relevant - great and informative morning followed by an exciting practical”

Year 5 teacher,
Croydon

KS2 Outreach workshop



Thames and Tudor Life - A Local History Study (with geography links)

Site Southwark

Duration A half day programme - no indoor facilities.

This programme provides an opportunity to observe the local environment and learn about the local history of the River Thames and how it is linked into a wider historical context.

Session 1 On the riverside, pupils will develop an understanding of what the Thames is like today and gain knowledge of river geography. Fieldwork on the foreshore involves collecting and identifying historical artefacts as evidence of river use. This session will enable pupils to gain an understanding and awareness of the past by comparing it to the present day. The riverside trail along the South Bank involves recording how the Thames has changed since the times of the Tudors, Stuarts and the Elizabethans. The trail will start or finish at the Golden Hinde 2 depending on the tide (we will advise you on booking). The riverside trail will provide pupils with an opportunity to explore and observe the local environment and to carry out a local history study as pupils investigate the riverside and local streets for evidence of those who lived near and worked on the Thames.

Victorian Thames

A Local History Study (with geography links)

Sites Chiswick

Duration Full day programme only. Pupils will develop an understanding of what the Thames is like today and gain knowledge of river geography. Pupils will study the history of the local area, develop their enquiry skills and learn how different sources can help build up a picture of the past. This programme provides an opportunity to observe the local environment and discover the local history of the river and how it links to a wider historical context.

Session 1 Hands-on activities, using the River of History floor game. Pupils will gain a chronological understanding of Thames settlement. Pupils will investigate the lives of different local Victorian families using a variety of historical sources such as census material and maps. Each group will present their findings and pose for a "Victorian family photo" using simple props and costumes.

Session 2 The riverside trail will provide pupils with an opportunity to explore and observe the local environment and carry out a local history study. Pupils will investigate the riverside and streets for evidence of those who lived near and worked on the Thames.

Tribes and Tides

A voyage through prehistory (history with cross curriculum links)

Sites Rotherhithe

Duration Full day programme. Half days available on request.

This programme provides an opportunity to observe the local environment and discover the local history of the river and how it links to a wider historical context.

Session 1 An overview of prehistory, river settlement and archaeology will enable pupils to develop key vocabulary and chronological understanding. Fieldwork on the riverside will allow pupils to make comparisons between the past and the present and gain an understanding of rivers and tides. Fieldwork on the foreshore involves collecting and identifying objects to distinguish between different materials.

Session 2 Classroom activities enable pupils to create a prehistoric floor model to gain a historical perspective using a range of hands-on resources. Pupils will gain insight into how London's rivers were used and the complexity of people's lives during the Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age.

“Thank you so much for your help and our pupil who uses a wheelchair – we v actively involved” Year 6 teacher, Wandsworth

Key stage 2 Science

The Science of Thames Water (science and history with geography links)

Site Chiswick

Duration Half day programme.

How clean is the Thames today?

Different types of scientific inquiries help pupils discover what impact the river environment had on

people's health during the 19th and 21st centuries. These include using riverside observations, identification of river wildlife and signs of pollution. Fair testing will measure water quality (pH, turbidity and water temperature). Collecting, analysing and presenting data will allow pupils to be part of 'River Watch', a Citizen Science project. Data will be uploaded to the River Watch database, enabling classes to use it for follow-up work back at school. The data will also be used by scientists monitoring litter and water quality issues in the tidal Thames.

Other primary and SEND courses

KS2 Thames Art Factor Creative arts programmes are available at Chiswick on request. We are happy to help you plan an arts programme and we can adapt our programmes to suit your requirements. For details see

www.thames-explorer.org.uk/thames-art-factory-ks2

Fieldwork for SEND classes

We welcome the chance to introduce your SEND class to the Thames fore-shore and can differentiate your visit to suit your groups age and ability. Please contact us to discuss options.

River of Life Outreach Workshops for KS1, KS2 or SEND classes (geography with history and science links)

Duration Full day programme only.

Format A member of our staff will come to your school and teach up to 4 one-hour workshops or 2 two-hour workshops during the day. Each workshop is suitable for up to 30 pupils and can be adapted to fit in with your school timetable. For the best results the use of a hall is recommended, as well as a screen, projector and computer. We can tailor each workshop to suit the age group, ability and schemes of work of each class.

Contents Workshops will include revision of geographical features and the water cycle. Role-play with the River of Life floor game involves creating a natural river habitat and gaining an understanding of food chains and adaptations. Pupils will look at how the

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river environment has changed over time and how pollution and human impacts can pose a danger to living things. Through drama, pupils will explore environmental issues and find “pollution solutions” to help devise a sustainable future for the Thames.

Free to qualifying schools*

KS2 Port of London Outreach

Workshop (geography and history)

Duration Full day programme only.

This programme provides an opportunity to learn about the history of the River Thames and how it links into a wider historical context.

Format A member of our staff comes to your school to teach 2 to 3 workshops during the day. Each workshop is suitable for up to 30 pupils. Minimum duration of each workshop is 1.5 hours long but we recommend you allow 2 hours per workshop. For best results the use of a large space such as a hall is recommended. We will also need the use of a screen, projector and computer. In addition to the classroom sessions we can include an optional 10-minute presentation as part of your school assembly. The presentation will discuss how, on a global scale, all nations are interdependent, and the part the Thames plays in this.



Contents Workshops include hands-on activities using the Port of London world floor map and Thames estuary floor mat. Pupils will investigate world trade and the Port of London to gain an understanding of geography on a local and global scale. This is followed by role-play to discover the history of the Port of London.

*Free full-day programmes are available to qualifying state schools, subject to funding. Please call us for more details.

Key stage 3 Geography

River Landforms (geography)

Site Chiswick

Duration Full day programme. Half

days available on request.

Session 1 Pupils will gain fieldwork skills on the riverside and foreshore by collecting environmental data (depth, velocity, temperature, pH), in addition to invertebrate sampling and recording human impact and key features (meanders, erosion, deposition, transportation, island formation and tides). Pupils will learn about the importance of the Thames as a resource and how past and present human use has changed and impacted on the landscape.

Indoor options (2a or 2b)

Session 2a Pupils will investigate environmental issues and help devise a sustainable future for the river.

Session 2b Pupils will investigate the causes and effects of flooding and



different flood management techniques including hard and soft-engineering options. Pupils will use maps to discover which parts of London are most at risk from flooding.

Key stage 3 History

Archaeology for All (history with geography links)

Sites Museum of London, Museum of London Docklands, Greenwich, Rotherhithe, Southwark, Fulham Palace

Duration Full day programme at all sites (except Southwark). Half days at all sites (except Fulham Palace).

Pupils will study the history of the local area employing the historical enquiry skills used by archaeologists. Pupils will discover how fragments of history can build up a picture of the past.

Session 1 Fieldwork on the foreshore involves collecting and identifying historical artefacts as evidence of river settlement. The session will enable pupils to gain an understanding and awareness of the past and compare it to the present.

Session 2 Indoor activities enable pupils to learn how to distinguish between different materials and identify and date artefacts using specially designed sorting boards. Pupils will investigate how artefacts found around the Thames help us to build up a picture

of London's history. Pupils will gain a chronological knowledge from pre-history to present day.

Key stage 4 Geography

Man and the Thames GCSE geography fieldwork

Site Chiswick

Duration Full day programme. Half days available on request.

GCSE students will develop their knowledge through essential fieldwork and data collection, gaining insights into the relationship between human and physical landscapes, their processes and environmental challenges. Students will also investigate geographical questions and gain competence in using maps, fieldwork and geographical skills.

Session 1 Fieldwork on the riverside involves observing physical landforms and processes of the river system (meanders, erosion, deposition, transportation, island formation and tides). An Environmental Quality Survey allows each student to subjectively measure the urban and natural landscape to understand more about the relationship between human and physical geography. Fieldwork on the foreshore includes making a field sketch of a meander;

measuring and recording river materials and their processes and invertebrate sampling to assess water quality. Back on the riverside students observe either human impacts or flood protection by creating maps of the local area.

Session 2 An overview of the importance of the Thames as a resource and how past and present human use has changed and impacted on the landscape and the options for future management. Students gain fieldwork skills on the pier by collecting environmental data (depth, velocity, temperature, pH). If time allows, students will then study either a) The biodiversity of the Thames, environmental issues and sustainable management practices or b) The causes and effects of flooding and different flood management techniques including hard and soft engineering options, followed by a discussion on the consequences of extreme weather and climate change. Students will use maps to discover which parts of London are most at risk from flooding. Both options enable students to communicate ideas and arguments and draw conclusions.

Key stage 4&5 History

Archaeology for All (history with geography links)

Sites Museum of London, Museum of London Docklands, Greenwich, Southwark, Fulham Palace

Duration Full day programme at all sites (except Southwark), half days available on request (except Fulham Palace). Pupils will study the history of the local area, employing the historical enquiry skills used by archaeologists. Pupils will discover how fragments of history can build up a picture of the past.

Session 1 On the riverside, pupils will develop an understanding of what the Thames is like today and gain knowledge of river geography. Fieldwork on the foreshore involves collecting and identifying historical artefacts as evidence of river settlement. The session will enable pupils to gain an understanding and awareness of the past and compare it to the present.

Session 2 Indoor activities will enable pupils to learn how to distinguish between different materials and identify and date artefacts using specially designed sorting boards. Pupils will investigate how artefacts found around the Thames help us to build up a picture of London's history. Pupils will gain

chronological knowledge from pre-history to present day.

Other

Inset days

Sites Chiswick

Duration Full day.

Thames Explorer runs a number of inset days at our Chiswick site which can be tailored to suit your needs. Visit our website www.thames-explorer.org.uk or call 0208 742 0057 to discover more.

Private foreshore exploration

Sites Millennium Bridge (north side), Greenwich, Rotherhithe, Southwark

Duration 2 hours

Follow in the footsteps of Victorian mudlarks by exploring London's longest archaeological site. Each day the outgoing tide reveals a different array of artefacts, from old smoking pipes, drain pipes, pottery, bones - there is lots of evidence of London's past to be found. Our archaeologists have a wealth of knowledge and are fully trained to lead safe and ethical foreshore explorations. Suitable for families, groups or individuals. Cost £232 for up to 30 people.

Partnerships

We are always interested in working on new projects with new partners. If you have an idea that might benefit learning on the Thames please get in touch with us.



Win a free trip 2019 Poetry competition.



What does the River Thames mean to you?

Open to all key stage 1 to 5 students. The winning class will receive a trip with Thames Explorer worth £350. Prize valid for 1 year.

How to enter

Teachers, simply send in your pupils' poems about their ideas, thoughts or experiences of the River Thames to our address at the bottom of the page.

Poems

Each poem should be presented on one side of A4 in any format and can be illustrated. Clearly print the pupil's name, year group and school name on the back of each A4 sheet. Please take photocopies of all entries as we will not be able to post them back. All classes who enter will be emailed a certificate for their efforts, so teachers please include your contact details (teacher name, class name and email) with your entries. The winning entry will be announced at the beginning of the summer term. Closing date for entries: Wednesday April 8th, 2020.

With thanks to our partners who have helped us throughout the year:



020 8742 0057

Thames Explorer Trust, Pier House,
Corney Reach Way, W4 2UG
info@thames-explorer.org.uk
www.thames-explorer.org.uk
Registered charity 1010903

