



CANONS

HOUSE & GROUNDS



Canons House and Grounds Local History Themed Lessons & Resources Pack For Primary schools

Local History Themed Lessons

Pg2 An introduction to our Local Heritage

Pg3 Designing Trail Part 1

Pg4 Designing Trail Part 2

Pg5 Historical Home Footprints

Pg6 Mitcham Sports

Pg7 The History of Trees at Canons House and Grounds



These plans, that have been produced by Mitcham Community Trust on behalf of Canons House and Grounds, are adaptable and can be tailored to meet the needs of the age group.

Appendices

There are some of the resources, linked to the lessons, in the appendices section.

Appendix 1 Weblinks to resources

Appendix 2 Mitcham Sports fact file

Appendix 3 Using the Canons House and Grounds Audio Trail

Appendix 4 Visiting Canons House and Grounds

Appendix 5 Other Local Heritage Themed Lesson Ideas

An Introduction to our Local Heritage

Children will take on the role of local heritage detectives, tasked with uncovering the rich history of their community. They can embark on this mission within the confines of the school environment, utilizing a diverse array of primary and secondary resources. Alternatively, they can venture into the field, delving directly into the historical landscape to enhance their exploration.

Learning Outcome

To find out about local heritage and what the local area was or is famous for.

To use evidence to ask questions and to find questions about the past.

Sample of Resources

- Ordnance Maps of Canons House and Grounds -(Appendix 1 weblinks)
- Historic photos of Mitcham for timeline activity (Appendix 1 weblinks)
- Question Matrix Power Point (Appendix 1 weblinks)
- Ariel photos of Mitcham.
- Post it notes and pens



Activity

Watch BBC Clip – How to research archive photos - <https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/clips/zgsyggk7>

Gather a selection of historical photos featuring significant landmarks in London and place them in an envelope. Engage the children by identifying the depicted locations and ensuring their comprehension. Encourage group discussion using the following prompts:

- Observe the individuals in the photos, noting distinctions in facial features, hairstyles, and clothing. Explore diversity by identifying people from various ethnic and cultural backgrounds. Consider the activities captured in the photos and imagine how they might be reimaged in a contemporary setting.
- Examine the presence of different modes of transportation in the photos.
- If buildings are featured, inquire whether they still exist today and if any changes have occurred. Explore the original and current purposes of these structures.

Introduce the concept of local heritage to the children. Display an aerial map of Mitcham and guide the students in identifying key features. Share old photos of Mitcham's landmarks, applying the same line of questioning. Encourage the children to recall specific details about certain streets, such as the location of a chip shop or the post office. Highlight "Canons House and Grounds" on the map or aerial photo, prompting discussion about its significance.

Present the "Question Matrix PowerPoint" to the children. Encourage them to describe various aspects of the photos by generating high-quality questions and fostering meaningful dialogue. Use the Question Matrix by combining words from the left and top rows to create questions.

Guide the children in constructing a visual timeline of research using past photos of "Canons House and Grounds" and its surroundings, with corresponding questions written underneath. This activity serves as preparation for their upcoming trip to "Canons House and Grounds." Pose thought-provoking questions, such as:

- When did the most significant changes occur at "Canons House and Grounds"?
- Why does "Canons House and Grounds" appear the way it does today?
- Explore the local importance of the site or building.
- Investigate the ownership history of the building site and how it came into possession.

These prompts will stimulate critical thinking and enrich the students' understanding of their local heritage.

Create your own Heritage Trail (Part 1 - Planning)

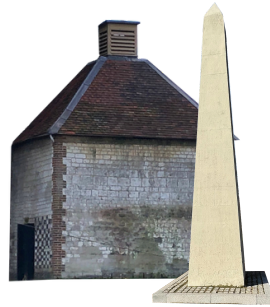
Children craft a heritage trail, mapping their school to Canons House and Grounds. They observe and document significant buildings, spaces, and places along their route, weaving a personalized narrative. This journey can narrate local stories, capture cherished daily moments, or adopt a broader perspective by spotlighting the optimal path to showcase nearby historic landmarks and points of interest.

Learning Outcome

To use primary and secondary resources to plan a heritage trail that explores the historical significance of buildings and landmarks within their local community.

Resources

- Camera/camera phone and/or drawing/painting equipment
- Access to books and/or internet to find out about your sites
- Computer/tablet to create your trail.



Activity

Firstly, consider the focus of your trail. Will it highlight important or intriguing buildings and monuments? Are you leaning towards a specific theme such as street art or perhaps a trail linked to a particular person or place? Determine whether your trail will take a historical or modern approach.

Next, evaluate the scale of your trail. Are the chosen locations in close proximity? Consider the ease of movement between them. Addressing this at the outset is valuable, allowing for adjustments to ensure accessibility or swapping sites for closer alternatives.

Conduct some research, if desired, on the historical significance of any buildings or sites you plan to include. Examples may include the Mitcham Clock Tower, Three Kings Pond, The Canons, or The Obelisk. This research will provide captivating stories and facts to engage your audience.

Create your own Heritage Trail (Part 2 - Designing)

Children utilize photos and notes from the planning stage to craft a heritage trail extending from their school to Canons House and Grounds. The information is succinct, encompassing key details about historical buildings and notable places along the route.

Learning Outcome

To use primary and secondary resources to design a heritage trail that explores the historical significance of buildings and landmarks within their local community outcomes

Resources

- Camera/camera phone and/or drawing/painting equipment
- Access to books and/or internet to find out about your sites
- Computer/tablet to create your trail.



Activity

When writing your trail make sure to keep it concise, like our example (You could always make another if you end up with too much information!) Think about how you can make it fun and have useful information at the same time.

Now you have the written parts, find some photographs or make your own drawing/painting. Every stop on your trail will ideally need a picture. Take a camera or camera phone with you and try to find the best angles to properly highlight your sites or grab some paper and something to draw with.

Finally, bring all your information and pictures together, laying it out in the same way as our example, and finish your very own heritage trail. Now go out and walk it! Why not take a photo of yourself? Post a copy of your completed trail on the school's website.

Historical Home Footprints (UKS 2)

This activity uses real-life maths to recreate the footprint of a typical house from a past society, allowing pupils to walk around an ancient house, visualise home life, and compare it with their own.

Learning Outcome

To understand how ordinary people lived in past societies.

To use measurements and properties of shapes in real situations.

Resources

- Chalk (for tarmac) or ropes/non-sticky tape and tent pegs (for grass)
- House dimensions and either a description, artist's impression, or diagram
- Tape measures, set squares, and protractors
- Signs for rooms and features (e.g. bedroom, fireplace, etc.)



Activity

Explain to children that historical home footprints refer to the outline or shape of houses from the past. It's like looking at the plan of a house from a long time ago and seeing how the rooms were arranged and how much space they took up. It helps us understand the size and lay out of homes in different historical periods, like the shape of a Roman Villa or a Viking longhouse. It's basically a way to learn about what houses were like in history by looking at their floor plans or footprints.

1. Assign children the task of investigating the typical dimensions and internal layout of Canons House.
2. Identify an outdoor space that is sufficiently large for creating a floorplan. Have children make estimations before actually measuring the area.
3. Distribute roles to children, such as surveyors, builders, designers, decorators, etc.
4. Instruct them to utilize equipment to outline the footprint, emphasising the marking of corners and doorways. Additionally, encourage the addition of signs to label various rooms and features.
5. Engage in discussion to compare and analyse whether the outlined footprint and room configurations bear any resemblance to their own living spaces

DID YOU KNOW?

Canons House is a two-storey Georgian house to the north of Cranmer Green, the main part of which was built during the reign of Charles II in the latter part of the 17th century. It is now Grade II listed to preserve it, as is a 500-year-old dovecote which sits next to an ancient monastic carp pond in the grounds of the estate.

Children will explore historical sports figures particularly those from their local area. They will examine changes in rules, traditions, and events of local sports. The lesson aims to improve research skills using a fact file worksheet, encouraging students to investigate historical figures from the region. They can either choose a designated local figure or pick their own for research.

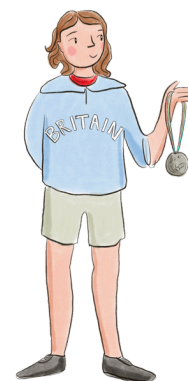
Learning Outcome

To study the history of local sports people and sporting events in the local area.

To create a historical figure fact file.

Resources

- Sporting Mitcham (appendix 1 weblinks)
- Historical figure fact file worksheet (appendix 2)
- Canons House and Grounds Running Track (visit)



Activity

Introduce the theme to the children as you delve into information texts on the 'History of Sports. Begin by collectively brainstorming a variety of sources where information can be found, and represent these ideas in a visually engaging spider diagram. Encourage the exploration of avenues such as the internet, books, interviews with people, and visits to museums.

To illustrate the research process, share examples from different sources, including books and websites. Set the stage for their upcoming project by explaining that they will be conducting research on famous individuals from Mitcham as part of our local heritage history topic. Utilize a Mitcham Sports pdf presentation to provide context, briefly discussing the subject matter.

Engage the students by prompting them to identify specific aspects they would like to discover about the topic. Foster collaborative thinking by creating a class spider diagram based on their ideas. Encourage a discussion on what constitutes a good or bad question and why, emphasizing the importance of ensuring there is ample information available for their subsequent factsheets.

Conclude by conveying that the questions generated will serve as the foundation for the factsheets they will be crafting, thereby emphasizing the practical application of their research endeavours.

DID YOU KNOW?

Joe Binks (1874-1966) was News of the World athletics correspondent for 54 years and was a key player in putting the track and club on the athletics map.

The History of Trees at Canons House and Grounds

Children explore the varied ages of trees within Canons House and Grounds, delving into the historical events these trees have witnessed. They then craft narratives, imagining the stories that may have unfolded around specific trees.

Learning Outcome

To gain historical perspective by placing growing knowledge into different contexts – age of trees/significant turning points in British history (e.g. introduction of the steam turbine)

Resources

Measuring tape/string, chunky chalk, pencils, trundle wheels, protractor, tree identification key, magnifying glasses (optional), clinometer (optional)



Activity

Recap the parts of a tree. Look at some examples of tree parts from conifers and deciduous trees.

Be a detective and visit Canons House and Grounds looking at a range of trees, conifers and deciduous.

In small groups choose a tree (if time choose more than 1 tree to sample). Using the identification guide to identify the name of the tree using leaves/seeds.

Measure the height of the tree using one of 2 methods.

Demonstrate the ‘looking through your legs’ tree measuring method. Use paces or other non-standard measures.

- <https://cdn.naturalresources.wales/media/688308/activities-tree-measuring.pdf>

Take a bark rubbing.

Calculate the age of the tree using the circumference, growth rate and calculator.
(Refer to resource web links - appendix 1)

Talk about the oldest and youngest trees identified –

- Looking at age of trees children can investigate the historical events trees will have lived through and write stories about the events that may have gone on around a particular tree.
- Discuss the historical value and travels of a particular tree?

DID YOU KNOW?

100 trees remove 53 tons of carbon dioxide and 430 pounds of other air pollutants per year
(Source Forest Facts)

Appendix 1 - Weblinks

The control + Enter might not allow access. If this occurs, copy and paste link in web browser

An introduction to our Local Heritage

Ordnance Maps of Canons House and Grounds

- <https://photoarchive.merton.gov.uk/canons>

Historic Photos of Mitcham

- <https://photoarchive.merton.gov.uk/>

Question Matrix

- <https://www.tes.com/teaching-resource/question-matrix-asking-questions-updated-6325478>

The History of Trees at Canons House and Grounds

Measuring Tree Links

- <https://cdn.naturalresources.wales/media/688308/activities-tree-measuring.pdf>
- <https://www.twinkl.co.uk/resource/measuring-the-approximate-height-of-trees-au-t-10002148>
- <https://learning.sciencemuseumgroup.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/SMG-Learning-Activities-How-Tall-Is-That-Tree.pdf>

British Tree Identification Guide

- <https://www.tes.com/resource-detail/download/12205216>
- <https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/trees-woods-and-wildlife/british-trees/>

Canons House and Grounds, Mitcham: Trees in the grounds

- <https://photoarchive.merton.gov.uk/search?q=trees+at+The+Canons&action=search>

The web link provides a bit of information. Digital download is available but at a cost of £6.99.

Mitcham Sports

- <https://photoarchive.merton.gov.uk/canons>



FACT FILE

Full Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Place of Birth: _____

Died: _____

Early Life: _____

Famous for: _____

Facts and Quotes:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Using the Canons House and Grounds Audio Trail and link

Appendix 4 - Visiting the Canons House Grounds

The resources enables self-guided visits to Canons House and Grounds without the need to enter the house.

If you would like to arrange a group visit, which includes entering the house, please contact the Canons House Coordinator:-



canons.house@merton.gov.uk

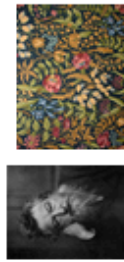


0208 274 5330

Canons House and Grounds, Madeira Road, Mitcham, CR4 4HD

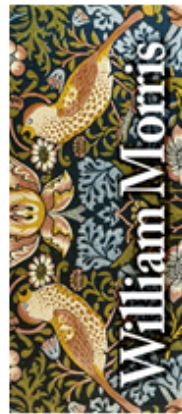


Studying a Local designer



Studying an influential artist from a local area. Children learn about William Morris and the type of art he made. Children to use Morris as a starting point for designing their own print to make a sample of wallpaper.

Exploring the effects of the art & craft movement through the works of William Morris.



Children learn that William Morris was the founder of the new movement of the art & craft movement.

Science/History River Researchers



Children to research information about animal and plant life in and near the River Wandle and other historical facts.

History of the River Wandle



Children to take a walking tour of the River Wandle. Use their research to ask more in depth questions

History of Food All things Georgian!



Children will research and look at the food of the past and how this influenced the health of the people living in the Georgian times

Our Local Heritage



D&T Preparing a Georgian Dessert Lemon Syllabub



Children to follow instruction to prepare a Georgian dish.

Industries of the Wandle Valley Wandle Industrial Museum Trip



Children will learn about the industrial revolution in Britain and in their local area. They will visit the Wandle Industrial Museum where they learn about the industries of the Wandle valley.

Other Activities

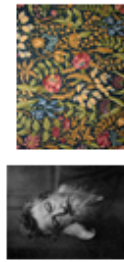
- Waterwheels
- Mitcham Hall of Fame
- Mitcham Horticulture Heritage
- Designing a 'Physic Plant' Garden
- Designing a Wildlife Garden
- History of The Olympics
- Plan a mini-Olympic sports day at The Canons.

Jump in a picture!



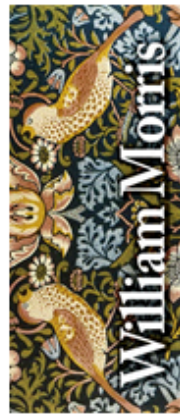
Children choose a photograph and draw a storyboard or write a diary from the perspective of this person shown in photo. Are you making a delivery? Visiting a friend? Is it the first day on the job or are you shopping for groceries?

Studying a Local designer



Studying an influential artist from a local area. Children learn about William Morris and the type of art he made. Children to use Morris as a starting point for designing their own print to make a sample of wallpaper.

Exploring the effects of the art & craft movement through the works of William Morris.



Children learn that William Morris was the founder of the new movement of the art & craft movement.

Science/History River Researchers



Children to research information about animal and plant life in and near the River Wandle and other historical facts.

History of the River Wandle



Children to take a walking tour of the River Wandle. Use their research to ask more in depth questions

History of Food All things Georgian!



Children will research and look at the food of the past and how this influenced the health of the people living in the Georgian times

Our Local Heritage

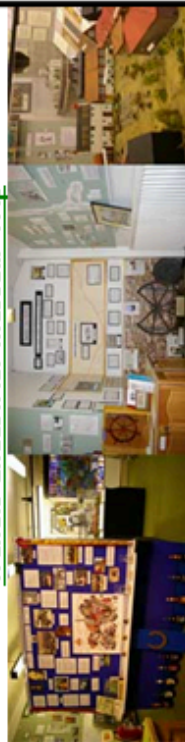


D&T Preparing a Georgian Dessert Lemon Syllabub



Children to follow instruction to prepare a Georgian dish.

Industries of the Wandle Valley Wandle Industrial Museum Trip



Children will learn about the industrial revolution in Britain and in their local area. They will visit the Wandle Industrial Museum where they learn about the industries of the Wandle valley.

Other Activities

- Waterwheels
- Mitcham Hall of Fame
- Mitcham Horticulture Heritage
- Designing a 'Physic Plant' Garden
- Designing a Wildlife Garden
- History of The Olympics
- Plan a mini-Olympic sports day at The Canons.

Jump in a picture!



Children choose a photograph and draw a storyboard or write a diary from the perspective of this person shown in photo. Are you making a delivery? Visiting a friend? Is it the first day on the job or are you shopping for groceries?