

OARE GUNPOWDER WORKS

Educational Opportunities

www.gunpowderworks.co.uk

Health and Safety

- All Groundwork Kent & Medway tutors will be qualified first aiders, however we ask that you bring your own first aid kit and that there is an adult within the group who is the designated first aider and knows the pupils individual needs. This person should be primarily responsible for administering any first aid if needed.
- You can obtain a draft risk assessment from the website, but we advise teachers to visit the site prior to the trip and do their own risk assessment
- The group leader must ensure that all the pupils wear appropriate clothing and footwear. Stout shoes or Wellingtons are recommended, as well as waterproof clothing.
- Please be aware of our recommended adult/child ratios for school visits:
Years 1-3 1:5 Years 4-6 1:10 Years 7+ 1:15
- We can provide plastic gloves for anyone who does have open cuts or skin disorders, for activities like pond dipping. Please make the tutor aware if this is the case.
- Walk around the site, do not run as some areas may be slippery underfoot
- Stay on the footpaths provided
- Please ensure your group all wash their hands after activities, especially before eating.
- Group leaders must heed all warning signs around the site. It does have industrial heritage remains and these can be potentially dangerous. Therefore children must be supervised at all times and not wander off alone. There are also areas which may be slippery, have steep slopes or are near water.
- We ask that the school is covered by its own public liability insurance for the visit (through the Local Education Authority or other).
- Please note our education tutor will lead each session and advise the children of health and safety issues. However the overall responsibility for the behaviour of the group during the visit and at lunchtime is the responsibility of the teacher/adult in charge.
- We have the right to cancel a visit in any unforeseen circumstances such as staff illness or extreme weather conditions

Areas of Study at OARE GUNPOWDER WORKS COUNTRY PARK



**Contact: Education Officer
Groundwork Kent & Medway
48 Canterbury Street, Gillingham,
Kent. ME7 5UN**

Tel: 01634 855166 Fax: 01634 855177

www.gunpowderworks.co.uk



Key Stage 2 (activities can be adapted to KS1 upon request)

** Please note that on average one area of study will take up half the day, so please choose two focus areas for a whole day. There are also worksheets available on the website for you to download prior to the visit, to support the sessions. Please discuss this with the education tutor before the visit.**

Habitats – Pond

The lower mill pond supports a wide range of plants, animals and insects. The aquatic minibeasts can be studied during a pond dipping session. Pupils use the nets provided to catch their creatures. These can then be sorted and identified using simple keys and can be observed more closely with the use of magnifying glasses and the microscope. Back in the classroom we look at the pond habitat more closely- how the creatures move, breathe, where they live, food chains and life cycles.



Habitats –Woodland



The woodland provides a rich resource to study the wildlife and plants. We will explore the woodland areas, hunting for minibeasts on different areas of the site. This will involve the pupils having access to sweep nets (dependent on the time of year) and magnifying pots to view their finds. There are various worksheets on the website, which the pupils can use to record their findings. We also look at the different species of plants and trees on the site and support pupils in identifying these.

The History of Gunpowder Making at Oare

We will look briefly at the history of the site, what gunpowder is used for and how it was made. This will involve a walk around the site, looking at the remnants of the buildings and some of the original machinery, used in the different stages of the production of gunpowder. The walk will also look at how gunpowder was moved around the site. The pupils will also get a chance to view some of the remaining artefacts and study the information panels inside the visitor centre.



Environmental Art



This involves exploring the country park and collecting materials suitable for collage work. This will vary according to the time of year you visit, but the pupils will get to create their own natural artwork outside. It can include; using found items to make a pattern or scene, making woodland people or making tree/leaf rubbings. Alternatively you may like to take time sketching some of the buildings that remain or the flora and fauna.

Key Stage 1

Guy Fawkes and Gunpowder

(Only available October – November)

In the morning pupils will learn about the history associated with gunpowder, Guy Fawkes and 5th November, as well as how gunpowder was made at Oare. This will involve a guided tour of the site and there will also be a chance to look at the pictures and interpretation in the visitor centre.



Having explored the rich history of the site and learnt about Guy Fawkes, pupils will make their own 'relief art' associated with gunpowder and fireworks. This 3D image is then used to make colourful rubbings. This is followed by introducing them to charcoal as an art material and not just an ingredient of gunpowder! They use this to create a wide range of images and have fun getting messy too!



Costs:

| PRIMARY | Full Day | Minimum charge | Half day | Minimum charge |
|---------------------------------|----------|----------------|----------|----------------|
| Winter Charges (Sept – March) | £3.00 | £60.00 | £2.50 | £55.00 |
| Summer Charges (April – August) | £4.00 | £80.00 | £3.00 | £60.00 |

We encourage litter free lunches

Unsupervised visits:

You can opt for an unsupervised visit, where you are free to take your class around the site independently and use materials provided on the website. However please be aware of all the health and safety issues listed below and complete your own risk assessment prior to the visit. We ask that you still complete a booking form and inform the Education Officer at Groundwork Kent & Medway.



If you would like the visitor centre to be opened during your visit, giving you access to the classroom, toilets and indoor interpretation, please indicate this on your booking form and we can then arrange for someone to open up the facilities during your visit. Please note there will be a charge of £25 for this.