

Dr Johnson's London

Dr Johnson's House workshop outline

| | | | | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Subject: History | Key Stage: 2 | No. pupils: 8 - 40 | Staff: Pupil ratio 1:8 | Duration: 90 minutes | Pre-visit resources available |
|-------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|

Overview of workshop

Aims: To develop pupils' knowledge of aspects of life in the 18th century in an engaging and hands-on way.

We introduce pupils to Dr Johnson and his house through visiting the rooms, looking at the collection and telling stories. The main part of the workshop is a carousel of hands-on activities that give a flavour of life in Johnson's London. This is done in small groups, rotating every few minutes between activities, meaning teachers will have to supervise some activities with support from Dr Johnson's House staff.

The carousel includes a historical 'treasure' hunt, which looks at how people used to live, dressing up in 18th-century costumes and 18th-century word games based on Johnson's *Dictionary*. These are supervised by accompanying staff with the assistance of the workshop leader. An information pack for staff is sent out to schools in advance so non-specialists can prepare and develop their subject knowledge if they wish.

An additional activity is also available.

Choose from: Training in 18th-century medicine

Learning to write with quill pens (Please note that pupils' hands will be stained with ink—this is fun, but messy!)

Object handling

The additional activity is led by a member of Dr Johnson's House staff. The number of activities available will depend on your ratio of staff to students and availability of staff at Dr Johnson's House. If there are insufficient accompanying school staff on the day of the visit, we may have to adapt the activities.

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| National Curriculum Links: HISTORY: Chronological understanding,(1) Knowledge and Understanding (2a), and Historical Enquiry (4a and b). | Suggested preparatory work: This workshop is suitable for pupils with no prior knowledge, or to round off a course of study. Do let us know what level of knowledge pupils will have so we can adapt | Suggested follow-up work 'A day in the life of Georgian London' piece of writing, or a diary/letter written from the period. |
|--|--|--|

Dr Johnson's House, 17 Gough Square, London, EC4A 3DE

Contact: 020 7353 3745 or education@drjohnsonshouse.org