

School is Out!



Suitable for: KS1 and KS2

Curriculum Areas: History/Local Study/Art and Design/English

Timing: 1-1½ hours. Timing can be flexible to suit the age and abilities of the group.

Cost: FREE

Our education room may be available for the children to eat lunch; if you require this space, please tell us at the time of booking.

Explore the life of Victorian schoolchildren through the painting 'School is Out' by Elizabeth Forbes. Come with us to Paul School in 1889, experience a taste of Victorian lessons and learn about playground games using replica and genuine artefacts, costume and role play.

Outline: Please allow us a few minutes to put away the children's coats/bags.

The workshop starts with a short introduction to the painting, including information about the artist Elizabeth Forbes and her place in local history. Children will explore what they think is happening in the painting and make comparisons with their classroom.

The children will be given items of replica Victorian costume to dress up in. They will then meet our 'Victorian school teacher' (one of our education staff) and have a chance to try out some Victorian lessons using replica slates and slate pencils. ('Lessons' include arithmetic, handwriting, spelling and drawing). There will be a short discussion on playground games/rhymes, with the children being given the chance to try some drill exercises.

The workshop will end with a discussion about the differences/similarities between schools then and now.

N.B. There is an opportunity for a teacher/adult helper to become involved by taking the role of the teacher during the 'lessons'. We have some adult costume and can provide a cane, finger stocks and a backboard to help maintain order in the class!

Learning outcomes:

By the end of the workshop children will learn –

- about Elizabeth Forbes and her place as one of the Newlyn artists
- how the painting 'School is Out' is telling a story
- what it would be like to go to school in Victorian times
- to identify differences between schools in the past and the present

This workshop will also develop speaking and listening skills, and observation and thinking skills.

A follow up activity encourages the children to make up their own story about 'School is Out'. A free story painting sheet is available to take back to school, or we can email it to the school on request.

2014 Curriculum links:

History – KS1

- significant historical events, people and places in their own locality
- identify similarities and differences between ways of life in different periods
- understand some of the ways in which we find out about the past and identify different ways in which it is represented

History – KS2

- a local history study – a study of an aspect of history or a site dating from a period beyond 1066 that is significant in the locality
- a study of an aspect or theme in British history that extends pupils' chronological knowledge beyond 1066 (e.g. changes in an aspect of social history – education)
- understand how our knowledge of the past is constructed from a range of sources

Art – KS1

- to use drawing, painting and sculpture to develop and share their ideas, experiences and imagination
- about the work of a range of artists, craft makers and designers, describing the differences and similarities between different practices and disciplines, and making links to their own work

Art – KS2

- to improve their mastery of art and design techniques, including drawing, painting and sculpture with a range of materials
- about great artists, architects and designers in history

English – KS1 and KS2

- Spoken Language, e.g. listen and respond appropriately to adults and their peers

To book this workshop, contact Zoe Burkett, Education and Outreach Officer on 01736 363625 or email zburkett@penleehouse.org.uk