

TEACHER NOTES

Scientific Enquiry: Investigate the Dinosaurs!



Contextual Summary

This is a curriculum skills-based Science resource that enables students to practise their skills of investigating, information-gathering and summarising - a core part of Science within the 2014 National Curriculum and, in Scotland, Curriculum for Excellence.

The task links to specific exhibit content within Dinosaur Isle museum that is relevant in topic to students in key stages 1-3 for example: habitat, features of once-living animals, and fossils. Questions have been chosen because they link directly with the key curriculum areas as presented by the museum.

The skills the students will use to demonstrate learning also test cross-curricular skills, for example in the subjects of English (comprehension, literacy) and History (natural history, using museum resources to learn about the past, etc.)

Task Implementation

It is suggested to teachers that they introduce the topic before the visit, so the subject matter is familiar and they have an understanding of the geological periods, particularly those when the dinosaurs lived. Students should therefore be keen to find the answers to the questions, and may have already researched / guessed at some of the possible answers.

When on site, students will be able to use the investigation sheet questions as focused prompts to engage with the museum resources at Dinosaur Isle, thus gaining a more enhanced and enriched visit experience, and ensuring it is one that links with the expected curricular relevance and knowledge. The design of the challenge questions ensures engagement with all relevant areas of the museum.

Ability Levels

There are 4 versions of this resource, generally adapted for mixed ability students in key stages 1-3. These could be adapted further by teachers if required, i.e. for SEN. For example, students could be tasked with answering fewer questions, or the ones that interest them the most, or perhaps work in teams to find the answers. Alternatively, they could adaptively use the key stage resource above or below.

Key skills practised in this unit:

- ▶ Reading/Literacy skills
- ▶ Investigation/ Information-gathering/ Processing skills
- ▶ Summarising skills

Relationship to Curriculum

The above skills are required to be taught and practised as per the National Curriculum, for Science key stages 1-3.

SUBJECT

Science

UNIT

Scientific Enquiry

OPPORTUNITIES FOR USE

- ✗ Pre-Visit
- ✓ On-Site Activity
- ✗ Post-Visit
- ✗ Peripheral Task



45 - 60 Mins

APPLICABILITY



KS1-3



P2-S3

CURRICULUM / SYLLABUS

- ✓ National Curriculum 2014
- ✓ Curriculum for Excellence

Applies to Resources numbered:

1	0	2	1	6	1
1	0	2	1	6	2
1	0	2	1	6	3
1	0	2	1	6	4

Learning Opportunities

Pre-Visit

The geological periods, fossils, dinosaurs, and using museum exhibits for learning could all be discussed in class prior to the trip so students are aware of the subject matter and the areas of learning relevant to them.

During the Visit

Completion of the Scientific Enquiry resource/s linked to this document:

Investigate the Dinosaurs!

Resource ID: **102161** (Lower KS2 mixed ability), **102162** (Upper KS2 mixed ability),
102163 (KS3 mixed ability) **102164** (KS1 mixed ability)

Post Visit

Follow-up tasks could include:

- ▶ Whole class discussion about the responses to the questions
- ▶ Groups presenting back their collated ideas to the class
- ▶ Projects on an area of particular interest

Enrichment Opportunities

Students will experience a museum-environment and be able to see fossils and other geological resources first-hand, engaging with many curriculum-relevant areas of study.

Learning Outcomes

Students will be able to demonstrate their investigative skill, information-retrieval, interpretation and collation skills, by answering appropriate questions and finding the required information. Students will also be able to demonstrate that they have understood their learning, by recording and summarising the information gleaned

For further details visit www.edudest.uk and click:

- ▶ *Resource Finder* - to locate specific resources identified above
- ▶ *Venue Finder* - to learn more about education at this venue
- ▶ *Subject Finder* - to find other relevant Isle of Wight venues

