## PARENT NOTES

#### English: Writing

Dinosaur: Restricted Area 5 - Research, Write & Present!

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#### At A Glance:

- English: Writing for purpose (to inform)
  - Key Stages 2U & 3
- ✓ National Curriculum 2014
- Practises research and writing skills

### About this activity

- The task links to specific skills in English that will be engaging and relevant to students in upper key stage 2 & key stage 3, as it challenges them to inquire, plan, research and present new information inspired by their visit to Blackgang Chine.
- This is a post-visit English writing resource that enables students to practise their reading, research and writing skills.
  - Students are asked to write to inform, using their experiences at Blackgang Chine as their stimulus material. They are given some

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an activity at Blackgang Chine (the dinosaurs at Restricted Area 5).

They will use a clear structure, planning their investigation into one dinosaur species and formulating their presentation before engaging in a writing task.



"Research is creating new knowledge..."

- Neil Armstrong

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- What is the task?
  This is a writing task which enables students to practise their informative writing, using clear, structured plans.
- They will also practise their reading skills whilst researching and selecting relevant information about dinosaurs.
- Students will use their imagination to create an engaging and informative text inspired by external stimuli.

#### How does this link to my child's learning?

 Students will be writing for a specific purpose and audience; they will practise using vocabulary and language which is taskappropriate.

### What will they learn?

- Students will learn to find and select relevant information from their reading and research.
- They will learn to plan through questioning. They will also learn how to make appropriate language choices and how to develop their writing to make it more engaging.
- Students will understand how to structure informative writing so that it is clear.

#### How does this enrich study undertaken in school?

This resource enables students to practise their reading and writing skills in a fun context, stimulated by their experience at Blackgang Chine.

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- It will also build on students' research skills and support their language and vocabulary
  - development.

#### What do they need to have done in preparation?

It is suggested that the task could be discussed in class prior to the trip so students are bearing this in mind when on their visit, focusing on the investigation possibilities while exploring Restricted Area 5 at Blackgang Chine Theme Park.

### What skills do they need to demonstrate

- Reading for the purpose of selecting relevant information
- Writing to inform
- Choosing language for effect; thinking about the structure and engaging the reader

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on the Isle of Wight, wikipedia offers an

This would serve as an ideal introduction for learners prior to their visit, and is



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#### What other follow-up tasks are there?

n addition to the task detailed, pupils could also:

- Complete a geography project on the dinosaurs seen at the park, e.g. producing a map with their locations identified
- Write a story using dinosaur-themed detail.

#### Is there any scope for future learning at Blackgang Chine?

Yes. There are many other subjects and tasks developed for this key stage and for subsequent visits. There is much to be learned here!

See the ED website's venue pages for more great learning options

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