

Activities in the South Range

A bit of history

The South Range was an aisled hall, probably built between 80 and 120 AD. The shape and construction of the buildings tells us clearly that they were influenced by Rome. There were two other villas of the same pattern on the island; Combley and Carisbrooke. You can see the shape of the hall marked out in chalk where the stone base is. The wooden posts that made the structure of the building would have been placed on these stones. Having the posts on stone bases would have prevented the wood from getting damp and rotting.

Things for the pupils to do

1. What was the shape of the houses in the Iron Age? **round**
2. The Romans measured in paces. How many paces was the South Range? **They need to work out it is 25m by 10m**
3. Was this larger or smaller than the Iron Age house? **larger**
4. How many people do you think would have been able to live in a building this size? **About 30**
5. How is this different to how people lived in the Iron Age?
Spacious, dryer,
6. What sorts of things survive for archaeologists to find and what disappear?

Survive to be dug up		Rot and disappear	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Metal• Pottery• Bone	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stones• Glass	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Leather• Wood• Fabric• Fur	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Paper• Bodies• Liquids

7. Why is it difficult for us to work out exactly what went on inside the building? **The things that tell us what room was used for have rotted and disappeared – beds, chairs, tables, pots, pans, clothes**
8. Which would you have preferred to live in? The Iron Age or the Roman building? **Most will prefer the Roman**

Activities in North Range

A bit of History

The South Range was taken down and the North Range was built in about 170 AD, we do not know why. The North Range it is 44m long and 14.5m wide it has been marked out in chalk. The villa was still a farm so we guess this building had the same uses. A very large drying oven has been found. This would have dried far more corn than the villa would have produced or needed for its own use. The North Range has a well-preserved hypocaust: stacks of tiles to support the raised floor. There were flue boxes going up the walls to act like radiators and the fire arch for the furnace that would have provided the heat. There would probably have been 8 rooms in total in the North Range. It did not have mosaic floors but it would have had plastered and decorated walls. The North Range was built over the top of a well.

Things for the pupils to do

1. Is the North Range larger or smaller than the South Range? **larger**
2. How can we tell that the people who built the North Range were Roman? What does the North Range have that tells us it is a Roman building? **It has a hypocaust**
3. Which aisled hall would you have preferred to live in? Why would it have been nicer to live in the North Range than the South Range? **North: larger and it has a hypocaust so it would have been warmer.**
4. How can we tell that the people who built the North Range were not as rich as the ones who built the West Range? **No mosaics**
5. What use could the people of living in Brading Roman Villa have had for such a large corn drying oven? **Drying it for export**
6. Why do you think they built over the well? **It dried up so useless**
7. As Historians and Archaeologists, why are we very pleased that they did build over the well? **It became a bin and we dug it up**
8. How deep is the well? How can we show this without damaging the well? **25m and drop water down and listen for the splash**
9. What are digging into the ground and damaging the villa? **Rabbits**

In the formal garden in front of the villa

How many curved benches are there? 4

How many pupils could they seat? 16

What do the two square mosaics in the ground show? Compass points

Which of the plants are used as medicine? See board

What is growing on the branches of the trees and shrubs? Moss lichen

What does this tell us about the air at the villa? Very clean

In the Medusa Meadow

Spotting of plants, bugs and birds there is a sheet for this

Finding and drawing the sculptures there is a sheet for this

Telling the time using the sun dial you'll need a tall pole

By the Sundial

This is an example of the impact of light and shadow in KS2 Science.

You get the pupils to stand on the month, hold up their hand and cast the shadow.

Why are there two rows of numbers – the hour changes in March and October.

From the Grounds

You can ask the pupils to identify aspects of Human and Physical geography that they can see.

If you have a map you could get them to match what they see in front of them with how it is represented on the map.

You could ask them to point to where the contour lines would close together, far apart or on top of each other. This is KS2 Geography

Things to do outside the villa —WITH ANSWERS

A really great thing about Brading Roman Villa is that there is plenty of space

Things in Green are healthy and good for your heart

Things in Purple are good for your brain and make you think



How many of these activities can you fit in?

REMEMBER

There are other visitors

The toilets are inside – if you need them