

### Notes for teachers

#### National curriculum links

- History P levels 1-8 Pupils encounter activities and experiences, pupils explore objects, pupils ask and answer simple questions about objects.
- NC Levels 1 – 3 Pupils recognise the distinction between present and past, pupils handle objects and make simple observations, pupils answer questions about the past.

#### About this session

**Location** Clore Centre for Education

**Format** Students use looking, touching, listening and smelling to explore the Battle of Hastings.

**Capacity** 10 students

**Duration** 10.30–14.00 with lunch break and comfort breaks included as part of the day

**Price** Free

**Note** After lunch we recommend that you visit the medieval gallery (Room 40) with your students. The handling session in the morning will be led by a member of Museum staff and in the afternoon you will be responsible for guiding your students around the galleries yourself.

#### In detail

- We introduce and discuss the role of kings and queens in the early medieval period.
- The pupils will then explore four scenes from the Bayeux Tapestry which tells the story of the first medieval king William the Conqueror and the Battle of Hastings through touch, sight, sound and smell.
- You are welcome to take photographs of your students and the objects throughout the workshop.
- Students should wash their hands after the session. After lunch we recommend that you take your students to visit the medieval gallery (Room 40) and the Anglo-Saxon gallery (Room 41) on the Upper Floor of the Museum.

#### Before your visit

- Introduce/revise the key themes and vocabulary listed below.
- Locate England and France on a globe and think about how we travel between the two countries and how people would have travelled over the Channel in medieval times. Locate modern Hastings and Battle Abbey (site of the Battle of Hastings) on a map.
- Ask the pupils to find out who is Queen of Britain (the United Kingdom of Great Britain and the Commonwealth) today. Can they discover the names of any other kings and queens of England who have ruled Britain in the past?
- At the feast before the battle there would have been lots of bread and roast meat to eat. Honey was used as a sweetener (no sugar!) and apples were a popular fruit. The students could try some of these foodstuffs at school. We are unable to provide materials for students to taste at the Museum but you are welcome to bring appropriate foods, honey or apples, for the students to taste under your direction during the session.
- Use the Look inside and What will happen? [whiteboard presentations](#) to get ready for your visit.

## Notes for teachers

### After your visit

- Back at school the students can record information about the Battle of Hastings using photos, drawings, words and objects.
- Act out a medieval news report on the Battle.
- Back at school the pupils could find out about other medieval kings and queens. Imagine there was a medieval Facebook – what would their home page look like?
- Look at some other scenes from the Bayeux Tapestry. What can the students see happening? What would they have heard and smelt in each scene?

### Find out more

- More SEN [resources and sessions](#)
- Related galleries: 40, 41
- Take a look at the galleries with [Google Street View](#)
- Search the [collection online](#)

## Visit notes for students and adult helpers

You can print this summary sheet and take it with you during your visit.

### Learning objectives

- To learn about kings and queens
- To find out about the Battle of Hastings.
- To learn about life in the early medieval period.

### Key words

- Anglo-Saxon
- Norman
- Medieval England
- France
- King
- Queen
- Crown
- Sea
- Boat
- Horse
- Feast
- Battle

### Early medieval Britain (led by Museum staff)

- The students are introduced to early medieval Britain and the role of kings.

### The Battle of Hastings (led by Museum staff)

- The students use objects, photographs, sounds, smells and textures to find out about the Battle of Hastings which took place between Harold and William, both of whom wanted to be king of England.

### Visiting the galleries (led by teacher)

- The students may visit the medieval gallery (Room 40) to look at lots of objects from medieval Britain.
- The students may visit the Anglo-Saxon gallery (Room 41) to look at objects from Anglo-Saxon England- don't forget to take a photograph of the students pointing at their favourite piece of Sutton Hoo treasure!

# The British Museum

