



THE NATIONAL TRUST

SHROPSHIRE HILLS - (EDUCATION SERVICE)

PREPARATION FOR VISITS AND FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES

PREPARATION

Thank you for booking one of our services. Listed below are some arrangements that will ensure your students get the best education from their work with us. In all circumstances you should inform us of any significant details concerning individual children e.g. physical, emotional, health problems. Do you have any Special Needs or disabled students in the group? Please inform your helpers about appropriate dress and footwear as it is often adults who prove an example (and often slip over!). Please find a photocopyable advice sheet enclosed to give them. We can provide copies of our own risk assessments but teachers should ensure a prior visit is made to fill in their own .

Guided walk

Students need appropriate footwear to deal with rough, hilly and possibly muddy tracks e.g. walking boots or trainers. Clothing too needs to be appropriate for the conditions. Everyone should have a waterproof. The exercise can provide the heat but in cold weather bring a hat and jumper. Inform the guide if you are not carrying first aid. Discuss with class what they might expect in a valley, the water cycle and associated language, the issues and conflicts for conservation. For a long walk everyone should have sun protection and carry a drink.

River Study (or Woodland Study)

Each student should have a waterproof, and if possible, wellingtons (although old trainers will do - be prepared for wet feet). They should know how to read a tape measure, metre rule and how to work a stopwatch. Discussion should take place over what they might expect in a valley, the water cycle and associated language. This work should be part of a larger topic that entails good preparation and follow up (see overleaf). Pre-arrange groups of 4 to 6 in size. We usually work with six groups per class (often with one of our leaders per 3 groups).

Farm walk

Students need appropriate footwear to deal with rough and possibly muddy tracks e.g. wellingtons, walking boots or trainers. Clothing too needs to be appropriate for the conditions. Everyone should have a waterproof; the exercise can provide the heat but in cold weather bring a hat and jumper. There will be times to stand around to listen or sketch (we provide paper & clipboards unless you bring your own) Inform the guide if you are not carrying first aid. Discuss with class what they might expect at a farm, elicit their ideas about what crops, animals and machinery they may see and the issues and conflicts for conservation. All students must wash hands after the visit.

Map and Compass

Students need appropriate footwear to deal with rough, hilly and possibly muddy tracks e.g. walking boots or trainers. Clothing too needs to be appropriate for the conditions. Everyone should have a waterproof; the exercise can provide the heat but in cold weather bring a hat and jumper. Inform the guide if you are not carrying first aid. Full training is given for map and compass usage.

Victorian artefacts and storytelling

Ask students to consider the importance of treating old items with care as they may handle some. The more background given about Victorian country living the more will be gleaned from the story. It may be helpful to talk beforehand about the important position of a Rector in a village, the lifestyles of poor farming families and what other job opportunities existed in the countryside, family size, pounds shillings and pence, tinderboxes and lighting.

More information

We can provide a CD with folders of photos to prepare students for what they will do. Also there are folders on the Life of The Stream (and video footage), threats to hills, management and many beautiful shots of landscape, flora and fauna to follow up their visit. £10(£1p&p) The Long Mynd G.C.S.E. pack (£10 + £1.30 postage) has aerial photo, O.S.map, historical pictures, photocopiable materials and good background information that can be adapted for primary school usage. Newsletters are available on request. We also have a background information pack for £3.