

A young girl with brown hair in a ponytail, wearing a red puffer jacket, is looking upwards with a smile. In the background, other children are visible, one holding a yellow balloon. The image is used as a background for a resource document.

Prehistory Whitehorse Hill

Pre-visit resource



Museum
Gallery
Archive

Prehistory: The Bronze Age at Whitehorse Hill

Key Stage 2

About this pre-visit resource

This pre-visit resource gives you detailed information about the session you are attending with your class, as well as some extra tips about our venue, so that you can be well prepared for your visit to The Box.

About this workshop

This workshop takes place in the **Simmons Learning Room** at The Box. Students will explore the remarkable Bronze Age burial at Whitehorse Hill on Dartmoor and discover what the objects and artefacts that were uncovered there can tell us about people in the ancient past.

Curriculum links

History

Local History



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Detailed Workshop Outline

The session begins with the Learning Facilitator introducing what an archaeologist does and how they use objects to find clues about the past.

1. The students are then given some artefacts from Prehistory and the Facilitator introduces them to object enquiry skills. The students immediately apply these skills to draw their own conclusions about what these objects can tell us about the past – just like a real archaeologist.
2. The Facilitator then introduces the history of Whitehorse Hill – what it is, when and how it was discovered.
3. To discover more about Whitehorse Hill for themselves, the students are then split into groups for an object handling session. The groups will revolve around three tables, using replicas of objects from the Whitehorse Hill burial and applying their object enquiry skills to find out more about this incredible site, and the people who created it. The three tables are split in to themes, and each group will visit each theme. The themes are: Technology, Trade, and Connections to the Landscape.
4. The session concludes with the group feeding back on what they have discovered, what they are able to say about how people lived during the Bronze Age, and their guesses about what the purpose of Whitehorse Hill might have been.

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Key themes

Key themes of the workshop include:

- Bronze Age
- Travel and transport
- Trade
- Prestige and power
- Technology

Key vocabulary

Key and new vocabulary covered in the workshop includes:

- Archaeology
- Archaeologist
- Excavation
- Bronze Age
- Artefact
- Finds
- Replica
- Burial
- Weaving

Preparing for your session

Visit Dartmoor for a sensory experience of this landscape. Ask your students to write down what the experience is like using all the senses, or draw what they can see.

Discuss chronology with your class, and locate the Bronze Age on a timeline.

Plan a pre-visit to The Box before you come with your class, so you are familiar with the environment and spaces before your visit.

Visit the galleries

The galleries at The Box hold objects and archives about the topic you have explored in this session, as well as other fascinating subjects. To find out more about this topic, visit the **Port of Plymouth** gallery at The Box:

Risk assessment

To help you to write your risk assessment for your visit, we have created a Teachers Hazard Assessment which holds common risks and solutions that you might want to include. Visit this page <https://www.theboxplymouth.com/schools/school-visits> for the Hazard Identification Sheet.

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Supported using public funding by
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