

The Trial of King Richard III

Leicester Guildhall

Key Stage 2 curriculum links: History, Language and Literacy

Key Stage 3 curriculum links: Citizenship

Cross curricular links: Design and Technology

1. Session Description

The Trail of King Richard III session is designed for upper Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 3 pupils. Through a variety of activities, pupils will learn about what happens in the courtroom and find out about how crime and punishment has changed through time. They also will gain an understanding of the use of the Leicester Guildhall as a criminal courtroom, learn how the courts try a case and debate Richard III's kingship and his legal reforms.

2. Session Length

120 minutes (2 hours)

3. Session Structure and Breakdown of Timings

Time	Activity	Length of activity
0-5 minutes	Introduction	5 minutes
5-65 minutes	Activity rotation: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Object handling• Roles in a courtroom• Timeline of Crime and Punishment• Which crime, which punishment? Matching game	60 minutes
65-70minutes	Transition and sharing of knowledge	5 minutes
70-85 minutes	Courtroom debate: Introduction	15 minutes
85-100 minutes	Courtroom debate: Looking at evidence	15 minutes
100-115 minutes	Courtroom debate: Discussion	15 minutes
115-120 minutes	Conclusion	5 minutes

Note: timings are flexible in response to pupil participation

4. Learning Outcomes

- To state different roles in a courtroom and what that person does.
- To demonstrate an understanding of how the courts try a case.
- Understand the reign of Richard III and express an opinion on whether he was a good or a bad king.
- To be able to describe changes in crime and punishment through time and associate punishments with the correct era.
- Pupils will have experienced handling real artefacts from a museum collection.

5. Curriculum Links

Key Stage 2

History

- A local history study
- Significant historical events, people, and places in their own locality
- Know where people and events fit in within a chronological framework
- Understand some of the ways we find out about the past
- Interpreting the past from resources

Language and Literacy

- Use discussion to learn
- Listen and respond appropriately to adults and their peers
- Ask relevant questions to extend understanding and knowledge
- Participate in discussions, presentations, performances, roleplay, improvisations, and debates

Key Stage 3

Citizenship

- Understand the nature of rules and laws and the justice system, including the role of the police and the operation of courts and tribunals

6. Staffing requirements

Museum facilitator led plus at least 3 accompanying adults from the school.

7. Room requirements

The Great Hall, at Leicester Guildhall.

8. Pre-visit and Post-visit activities

Cross curricular links:

- **History:** Interpret the past from resources
- **Language and literacy:** write clearly, accurately, and coherently; handwriting; writing narratives; be competent in speaking and listening, make formal presentations
- **Design and Technology:** use research and exploration, understand and use the properties of materials and the performance of structural elements to achieve functioning solutions

Pre-visit activities

- 1). Research the Leicester Guildhall and find out about its different uses over the centuries.
- 2). Research and discuss some of the legal reforms King Richard III passed.

Post visit activities

1). Make a medieval timber framed model building. Research wattle and daub and create your own version in the model by weaving lolly sticks and cover with papier mache.

2). Discuss if your perceptions of whether King Richard III was a good king, or a bad king have changed since taking part in the session.

