

Opening up the World: Navigation and Discovery in the 15th and 16th Centuries (Opening up the world)

Teacher Notes

Length: 90 minutes

Meeting point:

Your presenter will meet you **outside the main entrance to the palace**. Please arrive at least 5 minutes before your session is due to begin.

About the session:

This session uses the palace as the backdrop for understanding the impact that Tudor discovery and exploration had on the country as a whole during the 15th and 16th centuries. Through object-handling, role-play and case studies, this session looks at how Tudor exploration became big business for a cross-section of society, with far-reaching results.

Learning objectives:

- To use historical maps to understand how the knowledge and concept of the world changed in Tudor times, both geographically and politically;
- Develop methods of enquiry and analysis to understand why the Tudors explored, and why they chose the routes they did – for example: trade, profit and politics;
Create their own hypothesis on why captains, sailors, investors and monarchs chose to explore.

Key learning points:

- Exploration for the English in Tudor times was about opening up new ways to profit from the world;
- England was the upstart underdog who was trying to exploit overseas trade
- Exploration was a very delicate balance of high risk and high reward;
- Global exploration and trade impacted on all levels of society in Tudor times.

New National Curriculum links at KS2:

History:

- Develop the appropriate use of historical terms;
- Understand the methods of historical enquiry, how evidence is used to make historical claims;
- A theme in British history that extends chronological knowledge beyond 1066 (changes in an aspect of social history).

English:

- Artistic practice of drama;
- Ask relevant questions to extend their understanding and knowledge



Geography:

- Locational knowledge- locate the world's countries using maps;
- Human geography- describe and understand trade links;
- Geographical skills- use maps/atlasses/globes to locate countries.

Preparation for your session:

In order to help your pupils enjoy this session, we would request that, where possible, they are aware of the following subjects and concepts prior to their visit:

- Aspects of social history through time, particularly focusing on 16th century as a backdrop for the reign of Henry VIII;
- Understanding how our knowledge of the past is constructed from a range of sources, with different types of historical evidence surviving from the Tudor period;

During your session:

Please note that the 1:10 staff to pupil ratio which we ask for throughout your visit to Hampton Court Palace still applies during your teaching session. We ask that sufficient adults remain with the group as they will be encouraged to join in with the session activities. Our workshops are designed for a health and safety maximum of x35 pupils per session. For your information this session will take in one of our classroom spaces in the Clore Learning Centre.

