

# Just a Castle? 1,000 years of history in one World Heritage Site

## (Just a castle)

### Teacher notes

**Length:** 2.5 hours

#### Meeting point:

Please meet your session presenter at the entrance to the [Learning Centre](#) which is situated behind the [Jewel House](#). Please arrive at least **5 minutes** before your session is due to begin.

#### New National Curriculum links at KS3:

Students will:

- Know and understand the history of these islands as a coherent, chronological narrative, from the earliest times to the present day: how people's lives have shaped this nation and how Britain has influenced and been influenced by the wider world
- Understand historical concepts such as continuity and change, cause and consequence, similarity, difference and significance, and use them to make connections, draw contrasts, analyse trends, frame historically-valid questions
- Understand how people's lives have shaped this nation and how Britain has influenced and been influenced by the wider world
- Understand the methods of historical enquiry, including how evidence is used rigorously to make historical claims, and discern how and why contrasting arguments and interpretations of the past have been constructed

Subject content:

- A local history study
  - A study over time, testing how far sites in their locality reflect aspects of national history (some sites may predate 1066)
- The development of Church, state and society in Britain 1509-1745

#### Session objectives:

The Tower of London is the site of nearly 1000 years of history. In this session students will discover the changing functions and use of the Tower over time. This depth study will encourage students to critically examine primary source material including the buildings and historic artefacts and documents to test how far these sites reflect the changes in local and national history.

The session will contain two parts:

1. An object handling session in one of our classrooms
2. A tour of the site led by an expert presenter



If you have 35 students or fewer, your timetable will be:

Time	Activity
10.30	Object handling session
11.45	Site tour
13.00	End of session. Group has free time on site

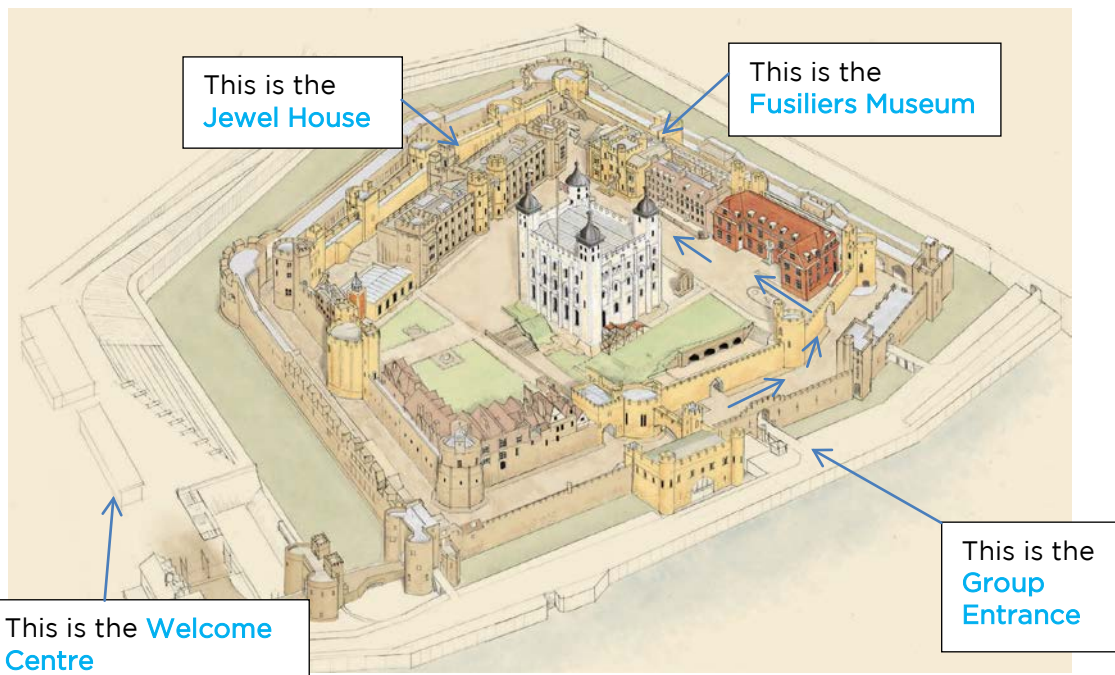
If you have 36-70 students, your timetable will be:

Time	Activity
10.30	Group A: Object handling session Group B: Site tour
11.45	Group A: Site tour Group B: Object handling session
13.00	End of session. Group has free time on site

### During your session:

Please note that the 1:10 staff to pupil ratio which we ask for throughout your visit to the Tower of London 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 for a health and safety maximum of x35 pupils. For your information this session will take place in one of our classroom spaces within our Learning Centre and will also go out onto the main visitor route, which will remain open to the public. Please ensure that your pupils are appropriately dressed for varying weather conditions.

### Directions to the Learning Centre behind the Jewel House:



1. Collect your admission wristbands from the [Welcome Centre](#).
2. Enter the Tower of London via the [Group Entrance](#). After you have shown your wristband and had your bags checked, make your way to the [Jewel House](#).
3. From the [Groups Entrance](#) turn right and walk past the toilet block and turn left through the archway.
4. Keep walking straight ahead past the [New Armouries](#) restaurant (on your right) and with the White Tower on your left towards the [Jewel House](#).
5. To access the [Learning Centre](#) you will need to go around the back of the Jewel House. Please do this using the path between the [Fusiliers Museum](#) and the [Jewel House](#).
6. Once around the back of the building you will come across a sign saying “**No entry, except for booked school parties**”. Pass by this and the entrance to the [Learning Centre](#) will be on your left.
7. Your session presenter should be waiting here for you, but if not please use the buzzer on the wall to contact the [Learning Centre](#).

