

# Playing the King

## Teacher notes

**Duration:** 90 minutes

**Meeting Point:** Clore Learning Centre, Dragon

Henry VIII wasn't always a fat, old tyrant! Challenge the traditional stereotype of this iconic monarch, plotting his life from his early reign through to his final years as king.

Led by an experienced drama specialist, this session encourages children to take part in drama activities to find out about key changes in Henry's life that shaped him both as a monarch and a man.

This session especially focuses on the changing role of a monarch through drama, enabling children to understand that performance can be a tool for understanding by putting themselves in someone else's shoes.

### Learning Objectives:

Children will:

- Discover that there was another side to the iconic image of "Henry the old tyrant".
- Learn that performance can be a tool for understanding the past by putting themselves in someone else's shoes.
- Understand the causes of the changes in Henry VIII's personality.

### National Curriculum Links

This session supports:

History:

- Understanding the methods of historical enquiry, how evidence is used to make historical claims.
- Discovering a theme in British history that extends chronological knowledge beyond 1066.

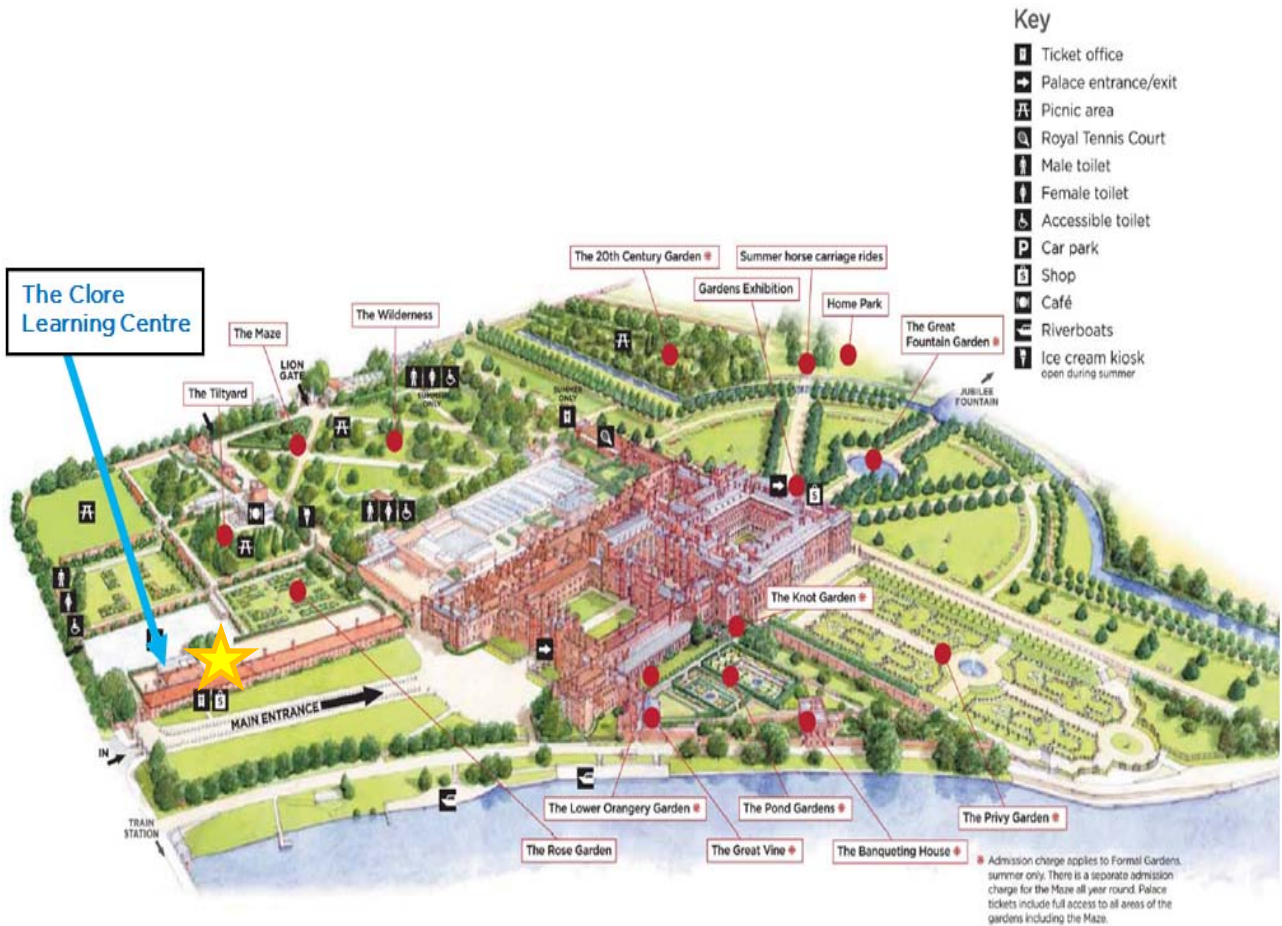
English:

- Discovering the artistic practice of drama.



**During your session:**

Please note that the 1:10 staff to pupil ratio which we ask for throughout your visit still applies during your learning session. We ask that sufficient adults remain with the group as they will be encouraged to join in with the session activities. For Health & Safety reason, our sessions are for a maximum of 35 pupils.



The session your group has booked with us takes place in one of our Learning Spaces.

Please meet your workshop presenter by the Dragon at the Clore Learning Centre, shown as a star on the map above. This is where your costumed session presenter will meet you at your allocated start time. We recommend being there a few minutes early.

For your information, parts of this session may include time outside so please encourage your pupils to dress accordingly.