

Imagining a royal childhood: Writing creatively about young Victoria

Teacher notes

Duration: 90 minutes

Meeting Point: Clore Learning Centre Entrance

It is 1837, and 18-year-old Princess Victoria has just been awoken in her bedchamber at Kensington Palace with the news that she is Queen!

Students will explore the new Queen's childhood home and investigate written sources, including extracts from contemporary Dickens novels, to find out about Princess Victoria's life at Kensington Palace in the context of Victorian London. Using Victoria's own letters and diaries as inspiration, students will produce their own poetry to express their creative responses to the new Queen's Kensington Palace story.

Learning objectives

Students will:

- Use primary sources to explore Queen Victoria's childhood in the context of Victorian London.
- Learn and apply new creative writing techniques.

National Curriculum Links

This session supports:

- Writing for a range of purposes and audiences, including stories, scripts, poetry and other imaginative writing. (KS3 English)
- Reading increasingly challenging material, including English literature, both pre-1914 and contemporary, including prose, poetry and drama. (KS3 English)
- Ideas, political power, industry and empire: Britain 1745-1901 – Britain as the first industrial nation. (KS3 History)
- Knowing and understanding 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. (KS3 History)



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 reasons, our sessions are for a maximum of 35 pupils.

The session your group has booked with us takes place on the visitor route and in one of our learning spaces at Kensington Palace.

Please meet your session presenter in the Clore Learning Centre Entrance. We recommend being there a few minutes early.

