



Soho House

Book now for taught sessions and outreach services with the Learning Team for Summer 2011

Taught Cross-Curricular Sessions for KS1, 2 and 3

Soho House is an eighteenth-century building with a period garden situated two miles from the centre of Birmingham. It was the home of Matthew Boulton and has been restored to appear as it was during the time he lived there.

A visit to Soho House offers the opportunity to study a house from the past and to learn about key historical figures such as Matthew Boulton, Equiano and Mary Seacole. Sessions also link to science topics linked to the Lunar Society, which met at Soho House in the 18th and 19th centuries. Most visits last about two hours and also include a house tour.

Our Summer Programme

Bright Sparks - Exploring Matthew Boulton (KS1 and 2)

In this new interactive session, sponsored by the Royal Society, pupils explore Matthew Boulton's historic home and see some of the things he made in his 'manufactory.' The session features a wide range of opportunities for pupils to discover his passion for Science, Astronomy, Geology and the weather through hands-on activities and lively discussion.



Mary Seacole (KS1 and 2)

Mary Seacole was a black nurse born in the nineteenth century who played an important role in the development of nursing during the Crimean war. This session includes role-play, dressing up and artefact handling. The session can also include a tour of Soho House, with links made to the medical contributions of the Lunar Society to society.

Equiano (KS2)

The session brings to life some of the key moments and events in the life and times of the enslaved African Olaudah Equiano. During his time as a slave, Equiano learnt how to speak, read and write English, and became

On-Site Sessions

an astute businessman. Eventually Equiano bought his freedom and became an important campaigner for the abolition of slavery. The session includes role-play, dressing up, artefact handling and a tour of Soho House highlighting the Lunar Society's links to the Abolitionist movement.



Houses from the Past (KS1)

What were homes like a long time ago? A tour of Soho House comparing life today with life two hundred years ago. Children explore how life today is different from the past, visit the grand dining room which played host to many famous scientists and go 'downstairs' to the housekeeper's room and cellars. Session includes hands-on activity and role play. Available throughout the term

Light (KS2)

This practical workshop links to the scientific enquiries of the Lunar Society into the nature of light. During the session, pupils make a pinhole camera and investigate a vast array of mirrors and lenses, discovering how and why a pinhole camera works and how this relates to the human eye. Additional activities encompass work relating to the movement of the earth around the sun reinforced with the making of a sundial.



Flower Power (KS2)

Inspired by Anne Boulton's love of botany, children find out about the classification of flowers, construct giant flowers from special parts and make flower models to take home. This can be combined with our Plant Passport activity to investigate the plants in the Soho House garden.

Whizz Pop Bang (KS2)

Members of the Lunar Society played an important role in the investigation of forces and gases such as Oxygen. This workshop combines workshop demonstrations of rockets and volcanoes with hands-on activities making and flying hot air balloons.

Material World (KS2)

Children conduct hands-on investigations with selections of rocks, fossils and minerals. They use keys to assist them in identification and then draw and label their selections, learn how rocks and fossils are formed and explore the wonder of nature's minerals.

Planning your Visit

Soho House Museum shop

The Museum shop is open during the summer months and sells a wide variety of products which appeal to children.

Information about services for schools can be found at schoolsliaison.org.uk

To book a taught session please call 0121 303 3890 or email SchoolsBookingsBMAG@birmingham.gov.uk. For more information please email amy.burrill@birmingham.gov.uk

Taught sessions cost £3.50 per head (£2.50 Birmingham LEA schools). Alternatively a special subscription scheme is available. Participate in four – six sessions every year and pay a single subscription of £350 per year (£250 Birmingham LEA schools). Additional sessions charged per head. For more details of the scheme across all our sites email SchoolsBookingsBMAG@birmingham.gov.uk or call 0121 303 3890. Accompanying teachers free.