



Blakesley Hall

Book now for school sessions and outreach services with the Learning Team for Spring 2011

Taught sessions in History, Science, Art, Citizenship and Cross-curricular

A visit to Blakesley Hall offers the opportunity to study a Tudor home and learn about people's lives in Tudor and Stuart times.

We offer a wide variety of cross-curricular activities and study sessions for all Key Stages both on and off-site.

On-Site Sessions

Key Stage 1

Options include:

A Rhyme through Time

(History and English)

Children use nursery rhymes to investigate the Hall and its garden.

A Day in the Life of Blakesley Hall (History)

Pupils investigate the life of children living in the Hall during the 17th century.

Traditional Toys (History)

A chance for children to handle and use toys like those from the past and have a go at traditional dancing.

Key Stage 2

Options include:

Crime Scene Investigation: Blakesley (Science and Citizenship)

Pupils become forensic investigators to solve a theft at Blakesley Hall. This session is only available from the end of October to the end of March.



On-Site Sessions

Key Stage 2

Options include:

Rich and Poor in Tudor Times

(History)

An investigation into how people lived in Tudor times, including costume, artefact work and dancing.

Building Detectives (History)

Pupils find out about Tudor building methods to work out how Blakesley Hall was built.

Lotions and Potions (History)

Children find out about Tudor health and hygiene and discover how herbs were used to treat illnesses in the past. See and smell real Tudor cures!



Pattern in a Tudor House

(History and Art)

An exploration of Blakesley Hall looking at different types of patterns, followed up by a chance to design their own painted cloth.

How do historians know things?

(History)

Children explore Blakesley Hall through a range of primary source material to discover how historians have been able to piece together information about the lives of the Smalbrook family.

“I have a very ‘lively’ class but Ruth got the best out of them. They were very well behaved and really enjoyed the visit.”



The Great Parlour

The Blakesley classroom is available for schools which book a full day session.

Classroom activities include:

- **Artefact handling, toys and object guessing**
- **Brass rubbing**
- **Quill pen writing**
- **Maths activities**
- **Outside the house study and observational drawing**
- **Herb garden investigation and Tudor remedies**
- **Geography activity**
- **Wills and Inventory study**



The Blakesley Classroom

Outreach Sessions

Education staff are able to visit your school to lead hands-on sessions tailored to the needs of your class, curriculum links and school day. Replica Tudor artefacts and costumes are provided.

Key Stage 1 Outreach

Boys and Girls Come Out to Play

(History / Science / Speaking and Listening)

Which toys did children enjoy playing with in the past? This hands-on discovery session will allow pupils to explore the lives of children long ago. Talking points will include what children wore; the materials toys were made from; how they were played with and will provide an opportunity for children to play with the toys.

Key Stage 2 Outreach

Options include:

Rich Man, Poor Man

(History / Speaking and Listening)

Using replica artefacts, costume, and primary source material (e.g. parish registers, wills and inventories) children work in groups as historians to build an understanding of different Tudor people who lived at Blakesley Hall. Pupils then share information and knowledge by feeding back to the rest of the class.

History Detectives Go Victorian

(History / Local History)

Children are challenged to investigate the families who lived at Blakesley Hall in Victorian times using a range of primary source material. What did the surrounding area look like? Were the family rich? How do historians find things out? The History Detectives will discover!

“Brilliant – Ruth always pitches the lesson at a level children will understand.”

We also offer bespoke sessions for Key Stage 3 and 4. Please contact the site to discuss your needs.



Tudor School Day Role Play

(Drama / History)

What was life like for both rich children and poor children in Tudor times? The class explore this question through a handling session. They will then take part in a role play activity and take on roles as Tudor boys and experience simple Tudor lessons with Master Richard Billingsley.

Romeo Meets Juliet – Capturing the Moment

(Drama / History / English)



Children work as a whole class to build an understanding of the material culture that would have surrounded characters in 'Romeo and Juliet'. They then explore the dialogue in two scenes from Shakespeare's famous play and are encouraged to speak Shakespeare's language.

Birmingham Museums and Art Gallery Learning Department

Planning your Visit

Each booked class will receive a morning or afternoon teaching session led by a member of the Learning team.

Information about services for schools at Blakesley Hall and other sites at Birmingham Museums and Art Gallery can be found at schoolsliasion.org.uk

Here you will find an extensive range of resources to support your visit alongside pre-visit and follow-up work, including online material relating to Blakesley Hall.

Risk assessment forms and pupil worksheets are available online or on request.



To make a booking

To book a taught session on-site or outreach, please contact:

Ruth Millett, Learning Support Officer / Jan Pick, Schools Liaison Teacher,
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Taught sessions cost £3.50 per head (£2.50 Birmingham LEA schools). From April 1st outreach costs £105 per session (£75 Birmingham LEA schools) plus travel expenses. 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 subscription scheme across all our sites email SchoolsBookingsBMAG@birmingham.gov.uk or call 0121 303 3890. Accompanying teachers and adults are free. Self-guided visits are also free, subject to availability, except for access to some temporary exhibitions as advertised.