Environmental Geography and the Historic Environment

This article continues our series looking at National Curriculum subjects and how the historic environment can be used for their study.

Geography is about places and the relationship between people and environments that shapes what a place is like and how it works. By exploring individual sites and local landscapes children can develop a range of geographical skills, investigating how places were used in the past and how that past has influenced the present.

Historic sites are an excellent starting point for a study of Environmental Geography (ATS) in the National Curriculum, even though most of the statements of attainment seem to be set firmly in the present. At Level 4 schools are required to think why historic sites might need protecting, and at Level 7, the effect of leisure activities on environments, such as

INSIDE

1993 Resources catalogue
Teaching Rubbish in the Classroom
Your Past Our Future
The Conservation of Historic Buildings
This free sixteen page booklet has been produced by English Heritage in association with Accademia Italiana, to encourage teachers to give the conservation of historic buildings a higher profile and to support Media Save Art 1993: Your Past, Our Future the recent schools competition organised by ICCROM (International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property). This international competition asked schoolchildren to design a poster to draw attention to the value of their cultural heritage through the conservation of historic buildings. Some of the winning London entries in the 1993 competition, which has just closed, are shown here. It is hoped that there will be a nationwide competition in 1994 and we will be announcing fuller details in future editions of Remnants.

The Your Past Our Future booklet contains a wide range of project ideas about the conservation of historic buildings, including background on listed buildings, a case study, National Curriculum guidance and links, on-site projects, a surveys of coal hole covers and buildings at risk, a resource section and details of careers in conservation. For a free copy please write to our usual London address.

Pictorial Charts Educational Trust
PCET have published three new wallcharts for Key Stage 2 History.
The Anglo-Saxons includes maps and photographs of Anglo-Saxon artefacts and illuminations. The Tudors and The Stuarts include portraits of the monarchs, contemporary paintings and photographs of outstanding buildings. Both charts also illustrate the scientific, artistic and cultural achievements of the times, and have been produced to support the BBC Schools Television series Landmarks.
All the charts have accompanying teachers' notes, are 70cm x 100cm and cost £6.40 + VAT. For an illustrated catalogue contact:
PCET Wallcharts, 27 Kirchen Road, London W13 OUD
Printed on recycled paper

Kenwood House Education Centre
Kenwood House has a new education centre, available for use by groups.
The room is situated in the servant's hall in the service wing of the house and is equipped with sufficient tables and chairs to accommodate a class. Additional teaching materials will be provided as the room is developed. The room may be used as a base for discussion on your visit to Kenwood, as a place to leave coats and bags and to eat lunch. If you would like to use the room you may book it when you book your free educational visit. Booking forms are available from and should be returned to:
Visitor Services Manager
The Ivecagh Bequest
Kenwood
Hampstead Lane
London
NW3 7JR
If you have suggestions for further equipment that you would like to see in the centre, or have children's work that could be displayed there, please contact:
Jennie Fordham
Regional Education Officer
English Heritage
1 High Street
Tonbridge
Kent
TN9 1SG

Schools can make a free educational visit to any English Heritage Historic Property provided this is pre-booked through the relevant regional office at least two weeks in advance. Teachers can also arrange a free exploratory visit beforehand to prepare ideas for the main visit later. The Education Service aims to provide teachers with as much help as possible to use the resource of the historic environment. If you have any requests for further information please contact us at:

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Keysign House
429 Oxford Street
London W1R 2HD
Tel 071-973 3442/3
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