



# Learning Programmes

## Bringing Learning Alive!

Paxton House offers a range of themed visit for schools, children and community linked groups.

At Paxton House we deliver immersive outdoor and indoor learning programmes underpinned by drama, recreation, art and science. We use our classroom (a Georgian stately home and grounds) to bring learning alive and help improve young people's knowledge and confidence; linking it to the past, present and future of our people's story and our natural heritage.

Each activity can be tailored to your specific curriculum requirements, age group and can be run as a full or half day experience. Offering a life enhancing and engaging experience right on your doorstep.

Our fully trained teacher is happy to tailor activities to any topic being studied – please do not hesitate to get in contact to discuss your needs.

Email: [education@paxtonhouse.com](mailto:education@paxtonhouse.com)  
Phone: 01289 386 901



## The Victorians

'Cleanliness is next to Godliness' was a Victorian belief. In 1851, the census shows that Paxton House had 22 indoor servants - excluding the butler & outdoor servants! These servants looked after the resident Foreman Home family of 5 adults and 6 children! Your visit

will be guided by our education staff who will be dressed in period costume, and we recommend that the children also visit in similar costume to instantly create a sense of the period. We have a selection of costumes available.



## Servants

Take a tour of the house and gallery to see the contrast between our beautiful state rooms and the dark kitchen. Experience life as a Victorian servant through a range of activities including floor scrubbing, laundry and pot cleaning.

### Objectives:

- Experience life as a servant during Victorian times
- Communicate what it was like for a servant through role-play and discussion.
- Learn about objects from the Victorian kitchen.

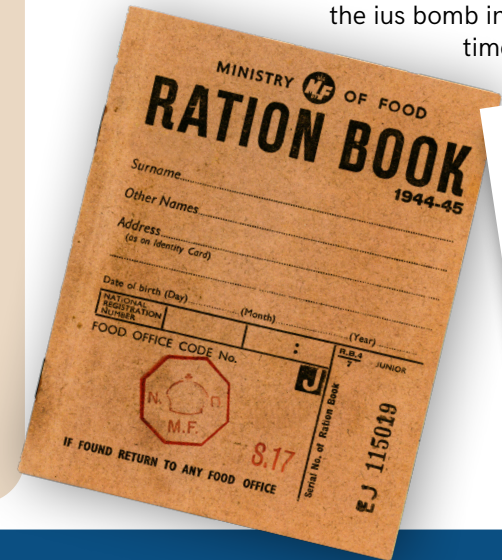


## Slavery

Take a tour of our new exhibition, interpret archive materials and considering how life has changed in our local area as a result. A possible two part session both in school and at Paxton House.

### Objectives:

- Interpret historical evidence to help to build a picture of Scotland's heritage.
- Develop historical empathy.
- Evaluate critically a range of sources and reach substantiated conclusions independently.



## School

Step back in time to experience an immersive and drama-based workshop. Our strict Victorian mistress will instruct her pupils in the 3Rs and physical drills. Pupils will have an authentic visiting experience where they will have the opportunity to use slates, slate pencils and copybooks.

### Objectives:

- Compare the experiences of Victorian and modern school.
- Communicate their understanding of Victorian school through role-play and discussion.
- Learn about the uses of Victorian objects found in school.

## Toys & Games

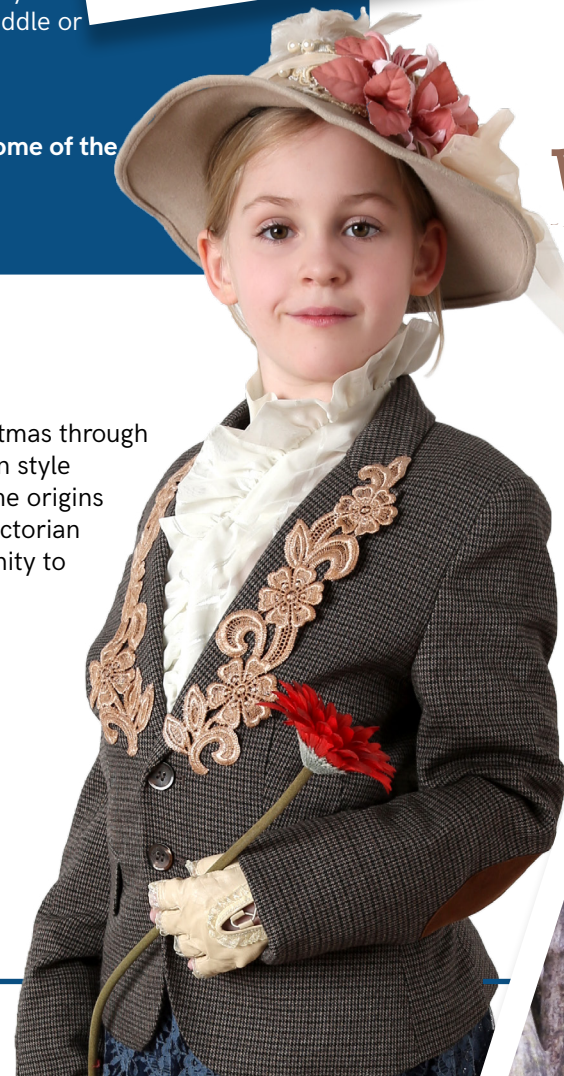
Learn about the past by playing with Paxton House's collection replica Victorian toys. Find out about the trends and influences on toys in the Victorian era and which toys you would play with depending on whether you were born into a working, middle or upper class family.

### Objectives:

- To investigate and compare toys from the past with some of the toys they are familiar with today.
- To make their own toy from the past.

## Victorian Christmas

Explore the traditions and customs of a Victorian Christmas through a series of interactive role play activities in our Victorian style decorated house. Step back in time to learn all about the origins of Christmas traditions. Following a tour make some Victorian inspired crafts to take home. There is also the opportunity to meet Father Christmas with a difference!



## Art Tours

Themed tours looking at different types of art work in Paxton House.

After studying the portraits throughout the house use our replica costumes to pose for and then paint your own portrait.

### Objectives:

- To look at different artistic styles.
- To have a go at drawing and painting their own portrait using different media.



## Writing Workshop

Whether your children are confident writers or struggle to get their ideas down on the page, Paxton House has something for everyone. Our relaxed workshops inspire young writers to think creatively and develop their writing skills through hands on experiences. Use the house and grounds to have fun and be inspired.

### Objectives:

- Within a motivating and challenging environment, develop an awareness of the relevance of different experiences and texts.
- Use a range of strategies and resources to develop writing skills.
- Use first hand resources to aid understanding of different life experiences.



## Fairy tales & other stories

Support your children's study of stories with a visit. Investigate a story, participate in some related arts and crafts before participating in our new trail.





## Pond Dipping and Bug Hunting

Use a net and learn how to dip in the education pond or explore the undergrowth. Then take a closer look to see what you have found, using (age appropriate) identification charts. All equipment is provided.

### Objectives:

- Investigate the woodland and pond through minibeast hunting, pond dipping and games, using simple equipment.
- Identifying and classifying (using keys, ID worksheets to identify minibeasts).

## Tree Detectives

Do you know your sycamore from your horse chestnut?

Be a tree detective and learn about the plants and animals in our woodland habitat in this hands-on interactive workshop. Stimulate the senses as you explore the grounds of Paxton House as you are inspired by the natural environment.

### Grounds and Gardens!



## Forest School and Gardening

Get involved in a child-centred inspirational learning session that offers opportunities for holistic growth program that supports play, exploration and supported risk taking. Develops confidence and self-esteem through learner inspired, hands-on experiences in a natural setting.

### Objectives:

- Develop self-awareness, self-worth and respect for others.
- Meet challenges, manage change and build relationships.
- Understand and develop my physical, mental and spiritual wellbeing and social skills

## Outdoor Fun and Games

Are your children obsessed with nature? Do they collect creepy crawlies, pinecones or sticks? Perhaps they enjoy making mud pies, bird watching or simply spending time getting stuck into anything wild in what ever way they can? Well, a visit to Paxton House is made just for them. Join us for an inspiring day of discovery and learning through play that will appeal to their natural curiosity. Choose a variety of activities from bug hunting to pond dipping.

Resource boxes also available to enhance learning around any visit to Paxton House. Including Victorians, WWII and habitats.

