Welcome

...to a town known for welcoming a diverse range of visitors through history.

From Roman invaders to Edwardian holidaymakers, Buxton and its famous spring waters have attracted travellers from many times and places.

The buildings, stories and characters which are unique to Buxton make it a very special town to explore and learn.

Together Buxton Crescent Heritage Trust, Buxton Museum and Art Gallery and Poole’s Cavern and Country Park have developed an exciting joined-up range of cross-curricular learning workshops for schools.

Incorporating history, geography, science, maths and literacy, the workshops involve active learning, experimentation, immersive storytelling and hands-on learning.

The workshops have been developed by an outstanding team of museum education, puppetry, art and craft, and performance professionals. We’re very excited to bring the story of Buxton to life for you!

Tel: 07929 316270   Email: learn@buxtoncrescenttrust.org
Opportunities to learn in Buxton

Here is an overview of our learning activities. You can pick and choose, mix and match, and build a whole day visit of fun and engaging learning in Buxton.

BUXTON CRESCENT AND PUMP ROOM

- BUXTON: WATER AND WELL WOMEN 1 hour workshop
- POXES, POTIONS AND THE APOTHECARY 1 hour workshop
- BUILDING BUXTON 2 hour workshop

POOLE’S CAVERN AND COUNTRY PARK

- POOLE’S SPECTACULAR CAVE TOUR 1 hour tour
- CHARLIE LIMEBURNER 1 hour workshop
- OUTDOOR GENIUS IN GRIN LOW WOODS 1-2 hour workshop

BUXTON MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY

- ROMAN BUXTON 1 or 2 hour workshop
- HOARD HUNTING: HIDDEN HISTORIES 1 hour workshop

BUXTON: Water and Well Women

By the beginning of the 20th century Buxton is established as one of the top places in the world to take the cure. But since the start of the war people are coming here for very different reasons.

You’re invited to visit the Buxton Pump Room to meet the Well Woman to take, taste and test the water.

But she needs your help to investigate the famous Buxton Waters. Why is it here? Is it really different from other waters? If so, what is so special about it? And why are so many people visiting the town to taste it?

Curriculum links:
- History: Significant historical events, changes, people and places in your own locality – local
- History – extended period study (leisure and health)
- Literacy: Speaking and listening
- Maths: Compare numbers - measuring and comparing data
- Science: Rock types – health and lifestyles
- Geography: The water cycle
Poxes, potions and the apothecary

The Apothecary is hovering around Buxton Crescent, looking for a pitiable patient in need of assistance.

Armed with a bag of tricks, trinkets and tinctures, pills poultices and potions they will mix you a medicine to cure your every illness.

Set up a rivalry with the Apothecary and measure, mix, craft and create your own cures for visitors whether suffering from ghastly gout, rotten rheumatism or your own made up malaise.

In this workshop you will learn about the history of Buxton medicine through a fun and challenging encounter with a tricky Victorian character.

Venue: The Pump Room / Buxton Museum

Timings:
1 hour workshop

This session links with: Charlie Limeburner (PC)
The Well Woman (PR)

Key stage groups: KS 1, 2, 3

Curriculum links:
History: Local history / extended period study (leisure and health)
Literacy: Speaking and listening
Maths: Measuring / fractions / currency / converting between different units
Science: Health and lifestyles / changes of state / mixtures and solutions

Building Buxton

John Carr of York came from humble beginnings to become one of the leading architects of his time.

He was a great example of what can be achieved when you ‘learn by doing’ – getting hands-on to master skills and knowledge.

First observe, measure and plot the grand Grade-I semi-circular Crescent, figuring out why it’s such a successful building.

Then, using little more than a stack of card, craft materials, and problem-solving skills you will work in groups to build your own Buxton Crescent – from the building itself to the furnishings and interiors.

Venue: The Pump Room
Timings:
1 hour / 2 hour workshop

This session links with: Charlie Limeburner (PC)
The Well Woman (PR)

Key stage groups: KS 2, 3

Curriculum links:
History: Local history / Georgian Britain
Art
& Design: Learn about great architects / use prototypes
Maths: Geometry and measures / symmetry / fractions / 3D shapes
Spectacular cave tours

Have you ever been so deep underground it’s as if you’ve been taken back in time? At Poole’s Cavern experienced guides will lead you as you explore a space filled with history and scientific interest.

Many visitors have found refuge in the huge underground caverns on the edge of Buxton. From stone age cave dwellers, Roman jewellers, medieval robbers, 16th century queens to Victorian visitors.

Whether your focus is on the science of rocks and fossils, ancient history, the water cycle, environmental studies, history of tourism or paleo-biology: Poole’s Cavern can offer a bespoke learning experience.

Venue: Poole's Cavern and Buxton Country Park
Timings: 1 hour tour
This session links with:
Charlie Limeburner (PC)
Outdoor Genius woodland explorers (PC)
Hoard Hunters (BM)
Roman Buxton (BM)
Key stage groups: 1, 2, 3, 4+

Charlie Limeburner

“Victorian Buxton isn’t all fancy tourists and medical pioneers, you know!”, says Charlie Limeburner, who lives with his family in their humble Lime Kiln Cottage on the outskirts of the grand resort town.

“Like us, hundreds of local people carve out an existence from the rock and minerals beneath their feet in Grin Low Woods. We’re grafters, working long hours to make an honest living.

Our backs are sore and the children’s coughs are nagging, but we’d never visit those fancy baths in town – we’ve neither the time nor the money!”

“While you’re visiting us in the woods, you may as well make yourself useful and join us as a Limeburner’s apprentice. Do you have what it takes to be a ‘brave Buxton Burner’?”

Venue:
Poole’s Cavern and Buxton Country Park
Timings:
1 hour workshop
This session links with:
Cave Tour (PC)
The Well Woman (PR)
The Apothecary (BC)
Outdoor Genius woodland explorers (PC)
Key stage groups:
KS 1, 2, 3

Curriculum links:
History: Stone age / pre-Roman Britain / Roman Britain / Local history study
Geography: The water cycle
Science & Geology: Rocks and fossils / fossilization / mixtures and solutions

Curriculum links:
History: Victorian Britain / Local history study
Literacy: Speaking and listening
Science
& Geology: Sites of special scientific interest
Hoard Hunting: hidden histories

People have hidden, buried, squirrelled away and lost precious objects since ancient times.

Explore the displays of stunning artefacts in the Wonders of the Peaks gallery, learning about ancient buried treasure, how it was lost, and found and what it can tell us about life in the past.

Digging deeper and getting hands on with history from all eras, you will assume the roles of metal detectorists, archaeologists, and museum professionals as you aim to find, preserve, label and display your own Buxton hoards.

Venue: Buxton Museum
Timings: 1 hour workshop
This session links with: Roman Buxton (BM)
The Well Woman (PR)
Key stage groups: KS 1, 2, 3

Curriculum links:
History: British history (iron age to Anglo Saxons) / local history – extended period study (hoards and burials) Archaeology
Literacy: Speaking and listening
Maths: Measuring / Sorting / Counting / Currency

Roman Buxton

In this immersive and interactive puppetry and storytelling performance you will meet and work with characters from Roman Britain.

It is the 2nd century in the Peak District and our Roman soldier is about to retire from the 3rd Cohort Bracara Augusta. He is planning to use his savings go in to business with his best friend, a local Brigantine tribe member.

But they’ve lost their hoard, and need help with some ‘get rich quick’ ideas to raise money fast. Perhaps a pottery repair studio, jewellery design shop, or a spot of gambling with knucklebones?

Can you help them?

Venue: Buxton Museum & The Pump Room
Timings: 1 hour / 2 hour workshop
This session links with: Hoard Hunters (BM)
The Well Woman (PR)
Outdoor genius woodland explorers (PC)
Key stage groups: KS 1, 2

Curriculum links:
History: Roman Britain / local history
Literacy: Speaking and listening / consider and evaluate different viewpoints
Maths: Sorting and counting currency / Roman Numerals
Learn Buxton venues

Four fantastic venues in Buxton provide a wide range of stories and learning opportunities. Find out about each place here, and click on the images, address and web links for maps and more information.

BUXTON CRESCENT

The stunning Grade I listed Georgian crescent-shaped building in the heart of Buxton. Originally containing hotels, lodgings and the famous natural baths, it was built for the 5th Duke of Devonshire as part of his plan to make Buxton a fashionable spa town.

THE PUMP ROOM

The marble pool inside The Buxton Pump Room is filled by thousands of gallons of the famous Buxton spring water every day. Built for the 7th Duke of Devonshire in 1894, this elegant Grade II listed Victorian Pump Room was (and is once more again!) a haven for people to ‘take the waters’.

BUXTON MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY

A museum collection 360 million years in the making with permanent galleries showcasing Peak District archaeology, geology, inventions, art, social and local history. Take a journey through time and place in the Wonders of the Peak gallery.

POOLE’S CAVERN AND BUXTON COUNTRY PARK

One of the ‘Wonders of the Peak’, Poole’s Cavern is a spectacular natural limestone cave beneath Buxton Country Park. From stone age cave dwellers right up to cutting-edge 21st century cave science – it is full of great stories to explore.
Visit us for a full day!

Here are some suggested themed itineraries to spend a full day in Buxton learning outside of the classroom...

### Buxton: An introduction

- **Build your own Buxton Crescent**
- **Sample the famous Buxton waters**
- **Explore the ancient caves**

### Buxton: Water and Wellness

- **Sample the famous Buxton waters**
- **Test and create your own historic cures**
- **Experience Victorian work and life**

### Roman Buxton

- **Meet and learn from Roman characters**
- **Discover ancient artefacts and stories**
- **Explore a site of ancient Roman finds**

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**Booking your visit**

**Booking a visit with us is simple.** Just use the contact details to call or email the venue of your choice.

Please provide the following details to help us with your enquiry:

1. Preferred date and time of visit. (plus at least one alternative in case that date is booked)
2. Session/s you would like to book.
3. Numbers of children and adults, year group, and any additional needs you may have.
4. Contact name and details so we can follow up your enquiry and confirm your booking via a short booking form.

If you’d like to book a full day or multi-day visit, or a choice of sessions at different sites, we can help. Email learn@buxtoncrescenttrust.org or call 07929 316270 to discuss creating an itinerary for you. We can arrange the booking, paperwork and payments with our ‘one stop shop’ service.

**Prices** range depending on the activity and are charged per pupil (minimum charges for groups of under pupils 20 apply):

- **60 min workshops** £4.00 pp
- **Poole’s Cavern Cave Tour** £4.50 pp
- **Combination of 2 x 60 min workshops** £5.50 pp
- **Half day activities** £5.50 pp
- **Full day visit** £7.50 pp
- **Full day visit (Including cave tour)** £9.00 pp

**Teachers, classroom assistants and support staff go free!**

(We expect that you bring no less than one adult helper per 8 pupils. This ensures the safety and supervision of group work and will help you get the most out of your visit)

**On confirmation of your booking we will send risk assessments, safeguarding policies and pre-visit information.**
Frequently asked questions

Are there other opportunities to get involved?
Yes! Even if you’re not able to come for a staff-led workshop, you can come to Buxton Museum for a free self-guide visit, and make use of our bookable handling resources to enhance your learning. We still ask that you book via the usual contact details.

We can also bring the learning to you. Most of our workshops can be delivered as outreach activities at your school. Contact us to enquire about prices and availability and we look forward to visiting you!

How can group leaders help?
All of our sites are shared with the public and adult group leaders must remain with their students at all times.
All of our workshops include active learning and require pupils to work in small groups to complete tasks. It would be helpful if group leaders and helpers could guide pupils’ learning by assisting their activities. Your enthusiasm and participation is much appreciated!

Is there somewhere to take a lunch break between workshops?
Yes – there is a room set aside for school visitors lunch breaks at Poole’s Cavern (and plenty of space outside weather-permitting) We also have bookable lunch spaces near to the Buxton Crescent and Buxton Museum. Please let us know if you’d like us to arrange a lunch space for you.

How do we get to you?
If you are coming by coach, you can drop off at the old Thermal Baths (for Crescent and Pump Room activities) outside Buxton Museum, or at Poole’s Cavern, where there is a large coach park.
If coming by train, both the Pump Room and Buxton Museum are a ten minute walk through the town centre, and Poole’s Cavern is a further thirty minute walk via the Pavillion Gardens.

Do you have risk assessments available?
Yes, we have downloadable risk assessments for each site and workshop on our website, which we will also send to you before your visit along with other practical information and suggested pre-visit activities.

LEARN BUXTON
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