

Victorian Experience (2 hours)

School Visit Information

Please read the following information carefully.

Locations: Hands on History Museum and Streetlife Museum

Duration: 2 hours

Key Stage 1 and 2

Cross-curricular links: History, Mathematics, Spoken Language, Writing

Experience timings

The table below lists timings for our Victorian Experience, whether you are bringing one or two groups, and then timings for lunches and self-directed time if you booked these via Eventbrite.

The site is closed to the public, so we are unable to offer self-directed time here. Self-directed time (and lunches for schools bringing 2 groups) are at the Streetlife Museum.

If you are bringing two groups, we strongly advise you to book lunches and self-directed time unless your groups are arriving and departing from the site separately.

Session timings cannot be changed. There is a fixed 30-minute break between sessions if you are bringing two groups - this allows us to reset the room and resources.

Bringing 1 group	Bringing 2 groups	
Arrive at Hands on History Museum - 10am	Both groups arrive at Hands on History Museum - 10am	
Victorian Experience at Hands on History Museum (10am - 12pm)	Group 1	Group 2
If you have opted for lunch and self-directed time via your Eventbrite booking:	Victorian Experience at Hands on History Museum (10am - 12pm)	Walk to Streetlife Museum (approx. 15 minutes)
Lunch at Hands on History Museum (12 - 12.30pm)	Walk to Streetlife Museum (approx. 15 minutes)	Self-directed time at Streetlife Museum (10.15 - 11.45am)
Walk to Streetlife Museum (approx. 15 minutes)	Lunch at Streetlife Museum (12.15 - 12.45pm)	Lunch at Streetlife Museum (11.45am - 12.15pm)
Self-directed time at Streetlife Museum (12.45 - 2.30pm*)	Self-directed time at Streetlife Museum (12.30 - 2.15pm)	Walk to Hands on History Museum (approx. 15 minutes)
*Depart from Streetlife Museum - 2.30pm	Walk to Hands on History Museum (approx. 15 minutes)	Victorian Experience at Hands on History Museum (12.30 - 2.30pm)
	Both groups depart from Hands on History Museum - 2.30pm	

*Departure times for single groups is not fixed, so if you wish to leave our sites earlier, please liaise with a member of our Front of House team who will be able to support you with accessing your belongings.

National Curriculum links

History – KS1:

- Changes within living memory
- The lives of significant individuals in the past who have contributed to national or international achievements
- Significant historical events, people and places in their own locality

History – KS2

- A local history study
- A study of an aspect or theme in British history that extends pupils' chronological knowledge beyond 1066

Victorian Experience outline:

- Introduction to the site and setting the scene to the session and historical period.
- This session is delivered in character, beginning with a Victorian school teacher.
- Getting dressed up in Victorian-style costumes to immerse themselves in the past.
- Victorian school room experience – sit at original desks and take part in a typical Victorian lesson.
- Sit by the Victorian range and learn about home life, including the differences for wealthy and poor people at the time.
- Object handling activity focussing on Victorian home life – handle original Victorian artefacts relating to the roles of specific servants at the time.
- Plenary and evaluation.

Important information to help you prepare:

- We recommend that you bring a minimum of three adults per class with you to ensure each group is supported.
- Victorian-style clothing items will be handed out to the children on arrive. Please support the children with putting these on when told to do so by our member of staff.
- To create that authentic Victorian classroom experience, our member of staff will take on the role of a strict Victorian teacher. For some children, this may be a little scary. We recommend that those children who you feel will need extra support or reassurance during this element of the visit are sat closest to the benches set aside for adults from your school. Please be assured that for Key Stage 1 groups, our member of staff practices with the children to get into character first; however, for Key Stage 2 groups, our staff member will be in character from the start.
- Your children will be guided to sit down at the authentic desks – girls on one side and boys on the other.
- Object handling activity - your class will be split into three groups. We kindly ask that an adult supports each group. Prompt sheets are provided for your adults to help facilitate the activities, whilst our member of staff will navigate around each group.

Key Vocabulary

Copy book, slate, arithmetic, coal, blackboard, factories, machinery, mechanism, Dolly tub, posser, dolly stick, wash board, carbolic soap, washing, pegs, cleaning, cooking.

Post Visit Activity Suggestions

- Write a story from the perspective of a Victorian child who is going to school for the first time. The children should think back to the session and draw on how they felt when they met the teacher for the first time.



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- Look at inventions related to the home. Research who invented them and how they have evolved over time.



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