

THE NATIONAL CURRICULUM

The educational potential of Wookey Hole Caves and Papermill is vast. As a resource it is suitable for pupils right across the age range studying a wide variety of different subjects.

Below is a general guide to the subject areas within the National Curriculum that can be developed from your visit. While certain attainment targets have been suggested, specific levels of study and statements of attainment will vary according to the age group and focus of study.

GEOGRAPHY (Key Stage 2) Programme of Study

1. Geographical enquiry and skill
 - ask geographic questions, eg. what is this landscape like?
 - use appropriate fieldwork skills, eg. labelling field sketches
3. Knowledge and understanding of places
 - describe where places are.
5. Knowledge and understanding of environmental change
 - recognise how people can improve or damage the environment.

HISTORY (Key Stage 2) Programme of Study

- Knowledge skills and understanding of history
1, 2, 3, 4, 5
- **11a** Victorian Britain
- **7** Local history study

DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY Programme of Study **1, 2, 3, 4, 5**

- Link to an activity about paper making

SCIENCE

- **AT3** Materials and their properties

ENGLISH

- **AT1** Speaking and listening
- **AT3** Writing

GLOSSARY

THE CAVES

Cave – an underground chamber with an entrance from the surface.

Column – a rock formation created by a stalactite and a stalagmite growing together.

Flow Stone – a sheet of calcite that builds up when water flows across a slope on the cave wall or floor.

Hyaena – a large, dog-like creature with exceptionally strong teeth and jaws. Hyaenas often chew up and eat an entire animal carcass, leaving only the teeth.

Legend – a story from the past that may or may not be true.

Mammoth – a type of hairy elephant that lived in prehistoric times, now extinct.

Speleology – the study of caves.

Stalactite – a rock formation made of calcite that hangs down from the roof of the cave.

Stalagmite – a calcite formation that grows up from the floor of the cave.

Straw – a type of stalactite, very thin and fragile.

Swallow Hole – a vertical shaft down which a surface stream disappears. Also known as a swallet.

Water Table – a line below which the rock is totally saturated with water.

TRADITIONAL PAPERMAKING

Coucher – the papermaker whose job it is to roll the sheets of paper out of the mould. (From the French meaning to lay down.)

Hollander Beater – a machine that beats the raw cotton to a pulp.

Laying Off – separating the blankets and removing the sheets of paper.

Mould – a wooden frame supporting a wire mesh on which the sheets of paper are formed.

Post – a pile of 100–130 blankets.

Stuff – a mixture of pulped cotton, water, size and starch.

Vatman – the man at the centre of the papermaking process. His job includes maintaining the right consistency of stuff in the vat and forming the sheets of paper on the mould.

Vatman's Stroke – a skilled, three-way shake to achieve the correct weight and thickness of paper.

Watermark – a pattern of copper wire on the surface of the mould that reduces the density of cotton fibres at that point in the paper, allowing more light through.