

Medieval Treasure Chest Activity Sheets

Key Stage 2

History and Literacy



Treasure Chests

History and Literacy

Introduction

The aim of this pack is to help teachers approach a self-led visit in a creative, confident and imaginative way. The activity suggestions are flexible and can be carried out in a number of ways. We encourage teachers to select and adapt the material to ensure it meets topic and year group needs.

Booking a visit

Did you know that self-led visits to Cadw sites are free to education groups attending education establishments in the European Union?

To book your free visit, please follow these simple steps:

- Please book your visit at least five working days in advance.
- Telephone the site to check the availability for the date you'd like to visit.
- Once you have agreed a date and time with the site, complete the online booking form at www.cadw.wales.gov.uk/learning

We also offer interactive, curriculum-linked education activities at selected sites.

Health and Safety

Teachers and group leaders are responsible for carrying out risk assessments prior to the visit, in accordance with guidance issued by local education authorities. We offer free teacher familiarisation visits to enable teachers to write the risk assessments and plan activities before bringing a group to the site. The learning pages on the Cadw website offer advice for planning your visit and site specific information.



Treasure Chests

History and Literacy

You will need:

- Croeso Leaflet or guidebook with plan of the site
- Pen or Pencil
- Clipboard
- Treasure Chest contents information sheet.
Available with the Chest or on the Cadw Learning Resources web pages.

There are many items in our Treasure Chests and they are divided up into different categories.

These include:

- Health
- Mystery Objects
- Games
- Reading & Writing
- Sewing & Braiding
- Cutlery & Crockery
- Clean & Tidy



A list of the Cadw sites where the Treasure Chests are available can be found at www.cadw.wales.gov.uk/learning

Pick one bag from the treasure chest

1. Look at each item in the handling collection and fill in the boxes below.

Object	Colour	Material (what is it made out of?)

2. Each object is a 'noun' – the thing we are talking about.

In the last activity you noted the colour and what it was made out of, helping to describe the object.

When we describe something, we use 'adjectives'.

Examples include: shiny, hard, soft, rough and smooth.

Fill in the box below with your own adjectives for each noun.

Noun	Adjective

3. Suggest which room or location at the site the objects belong to. Why do you think this?

Object	Where do I live?	Why?

4. In the last activity you explained why you thought the objects were originally kept in a certain place at the site. To do this, you probably thought about what the objects were used for.

A 'doing' word is called a 'verb'.

Examples include: read, walk, enjoy, wash, drink.

Fill in the box below with your own verb describing what each noun may have been used for.

Object	Verb

5. Do we have modern alternatives for these items?

Old Object	Modern Alternative

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6. These walls weren't always old ruins; people used to live here and visit here, including the rich, such as a Lord, and poorer people, who may have worked here.

Who do you think these items belonged to and why?

Object	Rich or Poor?	Why?



7. Which item is your favourite? Draw a picture of your favourite item and then write a paragraph explaining why you have chosen it.



This item is my favourite because...

Suggested Activities for Specific Collections

Health

1. What would doctors use instead of a “flea” today?
2. What is honey more commonly used for today?
3. What would you use today instead of wool and egg?
 - Where do we go if we’re ill today and who looks after us? How do we get there?
4. Which item do you think is the most frightening and why?

Hats

This collection has different types of hats.

These include a Coif, a hood with buttoned front, a hat with folded brim and a wimple.

Who do think wore each one?

Man	Woman	Both / Either

- Hats were worn every day during medieval times. When do we wear hats today?

- The hood with the buttoned front was used to keep warm. Do we still do this today? Do you own an item of clothing with a hood?

Footwear

Which of these items do you think would have been worn by poor people and which do you think rich people would have worn?

- Draw a picture of your chosen items of footwear and state whether you think they belong to the rich or poor and explain why.

Rich	Poor

- Which material is the most common among these items?
- How are the shoes different from the shoes we wear today? Think about the colour, style, laces, material, the sole, heel etc.

Cutlery and Crockery

- Do we still use these items today?

- What else do we use today that you don't see here?

- In each column, list the materials that crockery and cutlery are made of in each period.

Medieval	Modern

Which of these items do you think would have been worn by poor people and which do you think rich people would have worn?

That means there was no tea and no potatoes. Even carrots were brought to Britain from another country and were originally purple! How do you think the diets of medieval people and you compare today?

Medieval food	Modern food