

SCHOOLS AND GROUPS



BUCKS
COUNTY

MUSEUM

THE **Roald** Dahl
CHILDREN'S GALLERY

HOW TO BOOK

1 – PICK YOUR WORKSHOPS

All workshops are led by our experienced, friendly and knowledgeable Learning Team.

Book one workshop – £6.50 per child, minimum charge of £185.

You can combine one workshop with a FREE self-guided visit to the Museum.

Book two workshops – £10.50 per child, minimum charge of £262.

You can mix and match any of our workshops.

Book a Prehistory Workshop Day – £345 for a group of up to 30, taught at our Museum Resource Centre, Halton.

Need to cover Roald Dahl and Art or Literacy during your visit? Book a workshop in the Roald Dahl Children's Gallery in the morning and one of our Roald Dahl Crafts in the afternoon.

We can even provide goody bags of souvenirs for your class at pocket money prices (additional charges apply).

2 – CONTACT US TO BOOK

learning@buckscountymuseum.org

01296 325232

Online booking: buckscountymuseum.org/museum/schools/schools-booking-form/

ROALD DAHL CHILDREN'S GALLERY WORKSHOP

**THIS SPECIAL WORKSHOP TAKES PLACE
EXCLUSIVELY IN THE ICONIC ROALD DAHL
GALLERY. A MUST FOR ANY SCHOOL VISIT.**

The Gallery offers schools an imaginative and magical educational experience. Aimed at Key Stage 1 and 2, the interactive displays encourage pupils to investigate history, natural history, science and technology through practical hands on activities relating to museum objects.

A typical 90-minute teaching session includes:

- Introduction to Dahl's stories, his life, how he wrote his stories and where he got his fantastic ideas from.
- Hear all about the disgusting Twits in their filthy upside down room.
- Act out the scene from Charlie and the Chocolate Factory where poor Augustus Gloop gets stuck in the bubble tube, or become one of the angry farmers and follow Fantastic Mr Fox on his adventures!
- Discover the world of minibeasts inside James's Giant Peach.
- Investigate underground treasures by crawling through Fantastic Mr Fox's Tunnel.
- Explore sound with the BFG.
- Baffle your brains and boggle your eyes with optical illusions.
- Your group being shrunk by Mr Wonka's Chocolate Television Machine just like Mike Teevee. (and if you are really lucky, you or another grown up may be fed to the Enormous Crocodile!)

ROALD DAHL CRAFT WORKSHOPS

BFG DREAM BOTTLES

The BFG needs your class's help! Now that everyone knows about him sharing dreams, he can't keep up with demand. He needs your class to make fantastic new dreams inspired by their favourite Museum object. Once they have written or drawn their dream on a special label, they will then decorate their own BFG dream bottle to represent that dream, creating a unique souvenir to take home.

BUCKET'S BLANKETS

Help Charlie's bedridden grandparents see the wonders of Bucks by making a quilt inspired by the Museum and its collections. Your pupils will each get a fabric square which they will decorate using a variety of materials to tell the story of their favourite museum object. The level of sewing in this workshop can be changed as needed, from lots to none.

DANNY THE CHAMPION CARAVANS

Discover more about Roald Dahl's action-packed life and how he gathered ideas for his stories. Using the Museum's displays and gardens as inspiration, your pupils will decorate a mini treasure chest in the style of a gypsy caravan so they have somewhere safe to keep mementoes from their adventures.

JAMES'S GIANT INSECTS

Your pupils will discover the amazing world of the Insects James met in the Peach by exploring insects from the Museum's collections, going on a bug hunt in the Museum garden, and making their own specimens to take home.

ROALD DAHL CRAFT WORKSHOPS

MATILDA'S BRILLIANT BOOK BAGS

Using Matilda's famous love of books as a starting point, your children will learn more about an aspect of our collections or one of our fantastic current exhibitions. Your class will be given their very own canvas book bags to decorate with ideas inspired by the themes all around them within the Museum.

MR TWIT'S HUGTIGHT TREE MUSEUM

Using the Museum's wonderful collections children will gather ideas to create their very own tree of inspiration, a tree of engaging thoughts and enchanting images, to help all of us (especially that grumpy Mr & Mrs Twit!) to think more positively.

THE MOST ENORMOUS CROCODILES

Using specimens from the Museum's collections your class will discover what made the Enormous Crocodile such a perfect predator in both the water and on land. The pupils will then get to make their own predator puppet to take back to school.

HANDS ON HISTORY WORKSHOPS

Adaptable to KS1 or KS2 unless specified.

THE ANGLO SAXONS

Learn how the Anglo Saxons shaped Buckinghamshire, from how they lived to how they influenced the way we live now. Hands-on activities include coin rubbings, writing your own name in runic lettering, Beowulf storytelling and discovering the famous silver Lenborough Coin Hoard, on display at the Museum! Why not add a 90 minute craft to your day and learn how Anglo Saxons weaved clothing and made braids?

TOYS THROUGH THE AGES (KS1)

Your pupils will become history detectives, investigate objects and organise them into a timeline. Focusing on the core skills of investigation and discussion, your class will handle replicas of Roman, Tudor and Victorian toys and compare them to modern toys in this fun, play filled workshop.

THE BRONZE AGE

Discover the mysterious beakers left behind by the people of the Bronze Age. Looking at some amazing examples of Bronze Age artefacts from the Museum's collections, your pupils will then make and decorate their own Bronze Age style beakers to take home.

ROMAN SOLDIERS (KS2)

Send your class to Roman military school! They will learn about the life of a Roman soldier, make their own unique shield to protect them when they are in formation, and then experience life in the Roman army by having a go at formations as a unit, whilst responding to commands in Latin!

HANDS ON HISTORY WORKSHOPS

THE TUDORS

Your class will explore the 500 year old Tudor House at the heart of the Museum's buildings. In a this 90-minute teaching session your class will discover Tudor homes and decorations, customs and food, and clothing of the wealthy and poor. You can also add a Tudor craft workshop to your day (also 90 minutes), making your very own Tussie Mussie and Tudor Pomander!

THE VICTORIANS

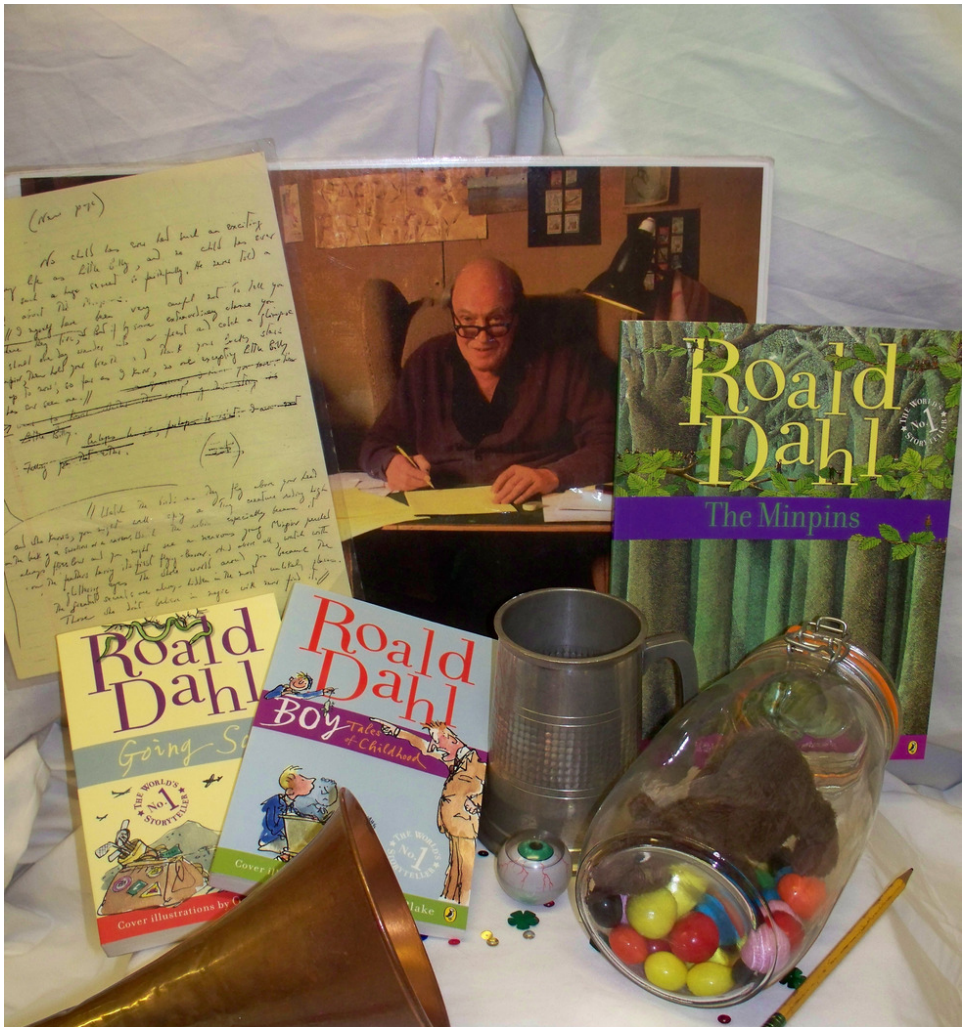
Our Museum wasn't always a Museum...Your pupils will see what life was really like for the Victorian rich and poor by handling objects as well as exploring the Victorian exhibitions and architectural quirks in the County Museum. Choose between a focus on Victorian people & domestic life, toys, or crime and punishment.

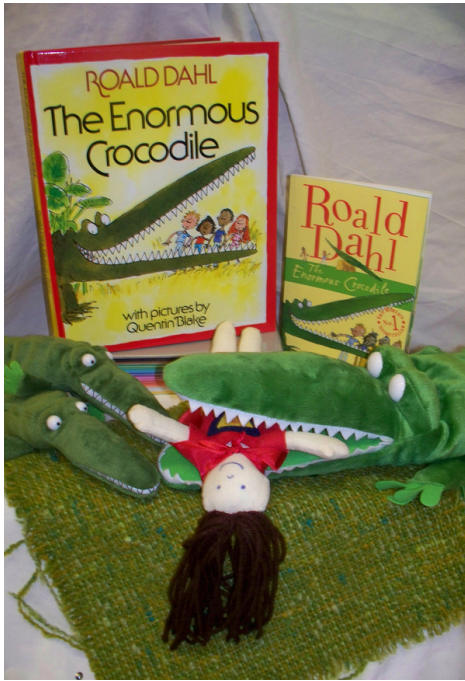
NEW SCHOOLS PREHISTORY WORKSHOP DAY

Featuring 3 hours of focused workshops, come and join us for the perfect fun and engaging way to help children to learn hands-on about prehistory. Let our Workshop Leaders guide your class through the thrill of their very own archaeological dig, discovering how to make real fire with historical and modern methods, exploring authentic techniques to create their very own cave art, and letting them handle genuine ancient artefacts from the Museum stores with our in-house experts.

Our skilled and experienced staff are on hand during a full day of learning and exploring the clues about how prehistoric people lived and worked. The children will be introduced to the techniques and methods that we know were used by our ancestors, as well as discovering how it feels to take part in their own archaeological excavation, unearthing treasure in the process. This is unlike any other prehistory experience they will have encountered, delivering key information in a memorable, fun way!

Price – £345 per day, subject to a maximum group size of 30. Suitable for KS1 & KS2. Involves spending time outdoors so warm clothes are essential.





FEEDBACK FROM TEACHERS

These are all genuine comments made by teachers who visited us between April 15 and June 18 either in thank you emails or on their feedback forms:

All in all probably the best school trip I have had the pleasure of organising. I truly cannot thank you and your team enough. Your museum will be highly recommended by me and I hope I will be able to book the same for this time next year.

Please could you thank your team very much for an amazing day yesterday. What a treat to be the only school at the museum. Everyone, children and staff, thoroughly enjoyed themselves. The day was well organised and the activity leaders were engaging and knowledgeable.

We had the most fantastic day yesterday. I did complete a feedback form but just wanted to mention how much the girls enjoyed themselves, it was brilliantly organised and the ladies leading our sessions were great.

The children thoroughly enjoyed the visit and it received very good reviews from them! It also encouraged them to read a few of Roald Dahl's books over the summer holidays. We were very impressed with the organisation and the workshop was very informative for the children. We will certainly be recommending it for future visits.

Such a lovely way for children to appreciate and notice artefacts and items from the past that, on an ordinary Museum visit that is not led, they would not see.

A great class trip. We've been coming for several years and the children always really enjoy it.

I've been here a number of times with another school and the staff are always welcoming and enthusiastic.

A great day thoroughly enjoyed by all the children and well run by the staff.

A really excellent day. The children were enthused and engaged in both activities. The staff were excellent and led the sessions very well.

Lovely day – thank you. The children are buzzing and will remember this experience.

Children have been completely engaged from start to end!

FAQ

How do I make a booking?

Please call the Learning Team on 01296 325232. If no one is able to take your call, please leave a message and we will get back to you as soon as we can. We can take bookings by email via learning@buckscountymuseum.org. Please include in your message or email:

- The name of your school and it's postcode
- Your name, email and phone number.
- Which workshops you wish to book
- How many and the year groups of the pupils you wish to bring
- Three preferred dates

Or you can use the online booking form at buckscountymuseum.org/museum/schools/schools-booking-form/

Can we bring more than 45 pupils on one day?

Yes (excluding the prehistory workshop) but you will have to split them between two teaching sessions on the day. All of our Museum-based workshops have a maximum occupancy of 45 pupils plus adults, so we can accommodate up to 90 children on one day.

How many adults do we need to bring?

We recommend the following ratios:

- 1 adult for every 10 pupils for groups of Year 7 and above.
- 1 adult for every 8 pupils for groups of Year 3 to Year 6 pupils.
- 1 adult for every 6 pupils for groups of Year 2 and below.
- Adults who are there to provide 1:1 support do not count as part of this ratio.
- For any adults over these ratios there will be charge of £6 per person.

What do I need to do before the actual visit?

- You need to sign and return the booking confirmation form within 10 working days of making your provisional booking for date to be confirmed.
- We recommend that teachers visit the Museum before the visit so you are sure of where we are, how to get here from the coach drop off point, and complete your school's risk assessments.
- You can also make an appointment with a member of our Front of House team, who can give you a tour of the site and a run through of the day.

FAQ

Do you provide schools with risk assessments?

Whilst we do not provide a risk assessment for you, we do provide guidelines sent out with your booking forms. We recommend that you make a pre-visit so you are familiar with the site and any potential risks. So that you can produce your own risk assessments, we provide free entry into the Gallery for teachers who have booked a visit.

What if we need to change our booking?

If you need to change any details of your trip please contact the Learning Team, on 01296 325232 or learning@buckscountymuseum.org so we can amend your booking as necessary. We will amend your booking form and send you an updated copy.

What if we need to cancel our booking?

After you have confirmed your booking and agreed to the terms and conditions, there would be a cancellation fee. If you cancel 10 working days or more before your visit you will be billed the minimum charge for the visit you have booked. If you cancel up to 5 working days before your visit you will be charged for your full booking.

Do the workshop costs include VAT?

No – all the workshops are exempt from VAT.

Do the goody bag costs include VAT?

Yes - VAT is included in the prices on the order form. Books are exempt from VAT.

Can our class visit the shop?

Yes (excluding the prehistory workshop). Please make sure your pupils visit the shop in small groups with an accompanying adult. We also offer Goody Bags for schools (a fee applies) as there is not always enough time to visit the Museum shop, especially if you have booked two workshops. Goody Bags must be ordered at least two weeks in advance and can be added on to your invoice.

Can you invoice us for our visit?

Yes. We count how many pupils and adults you bring on the day and then send you the invoice after the visit. Schools can also pay by cheque made payable to Buckinghamshire County Museum, or by cash on the day.

FAQ

Where should the coach drop us off?

Museum site: There is a designated coach drop-off point on Oxford Road. Please give a copy of the map at the back of this booklet to your Coach Company and/or driver. On the day, please make sure they are bringing your group to Aylesbury, and that they haven't confused us with the Roald Dahl Museum and Story Centre in Great Missenden. **Prehistory workshops** (Museum Resource Centre): There is a coach drop-off on-site. Please see your booking information email for details.

How far from the Museum is the coach drop off point?

It is a 5-minute walk from the coach drop off point to the Museum. There are no roads to cross as the route takes you through St Mary's Churchyard. This is shown as the blue arrows on the map towards the back of this brochure. Please note the following hazards for your own risk assessments: the route has cobbles which may be a slip hazard when wet and are possibly a trip hazard. There may be cars parking in the Churchyard.

Where should the coach park?

Please do not park in the drop off point. Coaches are to drop off and pick up from here only. Your coach company must make their own arrangements to park elsewhere. Car parks are shown on the map towards the back of this brochure. For more information call 01296 585381, or email parkingenquiries@aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk.

Why can't the coach drop us off in front of the Museum?

Coaches are unable to drop off students outside the Museum because we are in the beautiful Old Town of Aylesbury. There are a lot of Tudor and Georgian buildings and as the streets are too narrow, and there is not enough space for them to turn. The Museum is only a 5-minute walk from the coach drop off point and there are no roads to cross.

Where can we park our minibus during the visit?

If you have a disabled badge, there is limited parking in front of the Museum - but we cannot guarantee the availability of a space. Otherwise, you will need to park in one of the town centre car parks shown on the map towards the back of this brochure.

Prehistory workshop only – There is space to park your minibus in the MRC car park. Please see your booking email for details. For more information call 01296 585381, or email parkingenquiries@aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk.

FAQ

Can we eat lunch at the Museum?

Yes. We have lunch rooms that can be reserved free of charge at the time of booking. They are large, bright, safe rooms with their own toilets nearby. You can use them as your base for the day and leave all coats, bags and lunches there during teaching sessions. If the weather is good you are also welcome to use our walled garden.

Do we have to share the lunch room?

If another school is booked in on the same day as you, you will have to share the lunch room. You have clearly defined spaces. By sharing the lunch room, you help us keep our costs down.

Is there anywhere for our pupils to have a run around at lunchtime?

Yes. If the weather is good you are more than welcome to use our garden. You can also eat your lunches outside if you wish. We would ask that the pupils do not sit on the café tables and chairs as they are meant for café customers.

What can I do to ensure the day runs smoothly?

Please make sure you have the Learning Team's phone number (01296 325232) in your mobile phone so you can contact us if you are going to be late. We may have to shorten your sessions if you are late but we can try and rearrange the timings of your visit to ensure your pupils still get the most possible out of the day (we reserve the right to manage all timings).

How accessible is the site?

Visitors in wheelchairs can access all areas of the Museum by lifts or a chair lift. Due to our evacuation procedure which involves use of an Evac-chair, we are only able to have one wheelchair user upstairs in the Museum and the Gallery at any time.

Who is responsible for the group's supervision and behaviour?

Teachers are responsible for the behaviour and general health and safety of their pupils and accompanying adults during the entirety of the visit to the Museum. Workshop Leaders are there to deliver a fantastic workshop or craft for all, not to have to manage disruptive behaviour, and we would ask that you intervene decisively if we ask you to. Teachers and accompanying adults should remain with their pupils at all times for their health and safety, and accompany them in case of an evacuation. Please read the Terms and Conditions of our Group and School Visits that are sent to you with your booking form for further information.

FAQ

What will happen if the site needs to be evacuated?

A loud, continuous alarm will be used to alert staff and visitors of the need to evacuate the building. An automatic call is put through to the fire brigade for attendance. Teachers and staff accompanying the school should gather their pupils and meet at the assembly point at the back of the garden, by the back gate. At the assembly point teachers should take the register and report any missing persons to the Museum staff.

Are any members of the museum staff first aid trained?

There is always a trained first aider on site, but we cannot guarantee that one of the Learning Team will be first aid trained. We recommend you bring your own first aider and first aid kit.

Prehistory Bookings – The answers to FAQ may vary from those above – please see your booking emails for details.

Any Further Questions?

Contact the Learning Team on 01296 325232 or learning@buckscountymuseum.org: we will be happy to help.

HOW TO FIND US



The recommended drop off and pick up point is located on the Oxford-bound stretch of the carriageway on Oxford Road: shown as the **bright green** rectangle. The recommended pedestrian route from the coach to the museum is shown as **blue arrows**.

Your coach can not park here.

For more information about the town centre car parks call 01296 585381 or visit www.aylesburyvaldc.gov.uk/transport-streets/parking

Coach drivers need to make their own arrangements for parking.

Please do not use the Museum's postcode if you are using Sat Nav. Use HP19 8EY as a guide.