

# Cultural Services : Bradford Museums and Galleries

## Cliffe Castle Museum

### Education

#### **Classification KS3**

In this workshop pupils will get up close to the natural history collection and use this to help them sort vertebrates from invertebrates and identify key features of vertebrate groups. Students will then produce a relief print of an animal which can be 'classified' back at school.

2 Hour Education Officer led hands on session.

£80 per session (Max 30 pupils)

#### **What happens in the workshop?**

The workshop leader will meet you and your class in the museum entrance area. The workshop will take place in the Insight Education Room and Natural History Gallery on the ground floor of the museum.

Using a variety of natural history specimens pupils will consider how animals can be described, examining differences, similarities and key features. Following discussion about how animals can be sorted, pupils will work in groups to determine which animals are invertebrates and vertebrates. Using 'feature cards' pupils then sort out animals into the vertebrate sub groups and identify the different features that belong to these groups and help us to classify. Working in the natural history gallery pupils choose an animal to classify, draw it and subsequently turn it into a relief print in the education room.

#### **Pupils will:**

- Learn about how natural history specimens are created.
- Explore how we can describe living things.
- What classification means.
- Make observations and describe differences and similarities between specimens.
- Explore different ways of sorting animals into groups.
- Learn that there are different ways of classifying living things.
- Learn that animals can be divided into vertebrates and invertebrates.
- Learn that vertebrates can be divided into mammals, birds, fish, reptiles and amphibians and explore some of the defining features of each of these groups.
- Develop observational drawing techniques and printing skills.

#### **National Curriculum links:**

KS3 Science ;QCA scheme of work: 7D Variation and Classification.

## **Is there anything else in the museum that is relevant to the workshop?**

There is a range of animals shown within their habitat settings in the natural history gallery which is used briefly as part of this workshop.

## **How can I give feedback about the session?**

Your feedback is essential to the development of the education service at Cliffe Castle Museum. We will give you and sometimes the students an evaluation form to fill in at the end of the session. Please complete this and return to the workshop leader.

## **Pre and post visit information and activities.**

- **Field descriptions**

Photocopy some descriptions of animals, insects and plants from nature spotter books. Obscure the name of the living thing on the descriptions. Using only the descriptions can students identify which living thing it is? To make the activity easier also provide some images of the animals, insect or plants to 'match –up' to the relevant description.

- **Classification Systems**

Ask students to think about how we can group things around us, for example cars – are all cars the same? In groups get students to identify the different sub categories e.g convertibles, 2 door cars, tinted windows, c.d players, colour of car etc; the things we could use to 'classify' them. Give the groups some examples to place into their decided categories e.g a blue car with 2 doors that was made in Swindon. How do they decide which group to put it in now?

As a class discuss the categories different groups chose? When scientists classify living things, why is it important that they all use the same groupings ?

- **Classifying Printing**

Ask pupils to classify the prints produced in the workshop. Which of the group of living things do they belong to? What are their main features? Recap the different characteristics of each of the animal groups. Can a simple key be created to help identify the animals in the prints ?

### **Websites:**

- Observe and classify animals at: <http://www.nhm.ac.uk/eb/sortitout1.shtml>
- Identify living things within given categories:  
<http://www.sciencenetlinks.com/interactives/class.html>
- Classification information: <http://www.oum.ox.ac.uk/thezone/animals/animalid/index.htm>