**Rhu Primary Whole School Trip to London**

Let’s all travel south to England’s capital city together. Once we are there you can choose where you go and which activities you do. Have fun, use your imaginations and please make sure you send postcards via SeeSaw/Glow to your teachers. We would love to hear about your trip to the big smoke!

The attractions we will be visiting are:

-The London Eye

-Boat Trip on the River Thames

-West End Theatre Tour

-Buckingham Palace

-London Zoo

-Natural History Museum

Travel

We are all flying to London from Glasgow Airport arriving into London Heathrow.

**Activities**

Whilst on approach to Heathrow (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-W_wfI3tVsY>) can you spot the following:

-The River Thames

-Tower blocks

-Green parks/spaces

-Tower Bridge

-Railway lines

-Boats

-The London Eye

-Big Ben

-Westminster Abbey

-A lake

**London Underground (The Tube)**

Map -

Heathrow is on the Piccadilly (dark blue) line (bottom left corner of the map). Use the map (<https://tfl.gov.uk/maps/track/tube>) to find your way to the attractions on our school trip.

**London Underground Activities**

Help! The staff are losing their belongings. Please can you use the tube map to locate where they lost them and take them to where the staff are waiting?

-You can use the official line names like Bakerloo line, Central line or the colours-brown line, red line.

-You can also say northbound (going north), southbound (going south), westbound or eastbound.

*For example: Mrs Tetlow lost her glasses at the theatre in Covent Garden (Piccadilly/dark blue line). Please can you take them to her? She is waiting at St.Paul’s (Central/red line).*

*Answer: From Covent Garden take the Piccadilly/dark blue line northbound one stop to Holborn, then take the Central/red line eastbound two stops to St.Pauls’.*

1. Mrs Air lost her Paddington Bear at Paddington station. Please can you take him to her? She is waiting at Bond Street.
2. Mr Dickie left his favourite football at Wembley Park. Please can you take it to him? He is waiting at Arsenal.
3. Mrs Dye left her tennis racket at Wimbledon. Please can you take it to her? She is waiting at Mile End.
4. Mrs McAdam left cakes at Pudding Mill Lane. Please can you take them to her? She is waiting at West Ham.
5. Mrs Barker left her dog at Barking. Please can you take him to her? She is waiting at Barkingside.

**London Eye** (nearest tube station-Waterloo)

It’s a beautiful day to see the whole of London from one of the best attractions there is. The London Eye is situated right at the tourist heart of London; opposite Big Ben by the River Thames [https://360.visitlondon.com/#](https://360.visitlondon.com/)

***Did you know?***

-On average the London Eye receives more visitors per year than the Taj Mahal and the Great Pyramids of Giza.

-The 32 capsules on the London Eye are representative of the 32 London boroughs.

- Despite there only being 32 capsules, for superstitious reasons they are numbered 1 to 33: for good luck, there is no capsule numbered 13.

-Capsules travel at a leisurely pace of 26cm per second, which is twice as fast as a tortoise sprinting!

-The wheel is 135 metres high taking 30 minutes to travel one revolution.

***Activities***

-On a clear day you can see up to 40 kilometres in all directions. Work out using Google Maps where 40km is from where you live?

-A capsule on the London Eye weighs the same as 1,052,631 pound coins. Work out exactly how heavy this is by weighing a pound coin. You might need a calculator!

-The wheel is 135 metres high-a red telephone box is 2.5m. How many telephone boxes would need go on top of each other to be the same height as the wheel?

-If you could take anyone on the London Eye with you who would it be and why? Can you write an invitation to ask them?

-Mrs MacBeath is afraid of heights and does not want to go on the wheel-what could you say to her to persuade her to give it a go?

**Boat trip on the River Thames** (nearest tube station- Tower Hill)

Our river cruise begins at Tower Bridge near the Tower of London. We then make a U-turn to head west on the River Thames. The boat passes under several bridges, before arriving at the docks at Westminster, near the Houses of Parliament and Big Ben. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oBxzB8EOJEU>

***Did you know?***

-The river is home to over 119 species of fish, as well as otters, dolphins, porpoises, voles, eels and, until very recently, Benny the Beluga Whale.

-The Thames path is 184 miles long, which makes it the longest river walk in Europe. The river itself is 215 miles long.

-There are over 200 bridges that cross the river – the first was built by Romans.

-The Thames is the historic home of rowing in the UK – there are over 200 rowing clubs on the river.

-One of the teachers at school has rowed 26 miles on the Thames for a race. It was the first time they had ever tried rowing! Who do you think that was?

***Activities***

-How is the river different to our local river, The River Clyde?

-Do you know of any books or films which feature the River Thames?

-The River Thames really struggles with litter pollution. Can you design something to help solve this problem?

-We are going to have our very own ‘Rhu Primary River Thames Boat Race’. Make a junk model boat that you think will sail you to victory!

-Be a tour guide for the river cruise, record your voice whilst you are watching the video detailing to the tourists what they can see, feel free to add historical facts! Use directions: to your left, straight ahead, coming up on your right etc.

**West End Theatre Tour** (nearest tube stations-Covent Garden, Holborn, Tottenham Court Road and Leicester Square)

It’s show time! Let’s visit the Gillian Lynne Theatre on Drury Lane which is home to the production of Andrew Lloyd Webber’s ‘*School of Rock’.* This musical show is about a teacher who accepts a job at a school where the teachers are extremely strict and all learning is extremely serious. No fun allowed, until now….

Explore the theatre from the comfort of your own home <https://uk.schoolofrockthemusical.com/360-tour/>

Make sure you visit ‘The Gibson Live Room’ to watch fun interviews with the actors. The full cast aren’t working today but have put loads of videos on YouTube for you to dance and sing along to. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kWjNXJNemmI&list=RDkWjNXJNemmI&start_radio=1>

***Did you know?***

-The children in the show must be home schooled by tutors as they have rehearsals and shows in the afternoons and evenings. They do not go to bed until about midnight most nights, so they are too exhausted for school. If the children do not live locally, they must stay in hotels or with other local families.

-There are 39 theatres in London.

-For every main part in a west end show there will be an understudy. This means if the person playing the main part is ill the understudy can step in. Understudies need to learn all the lyrics, script and choreography. They also need to get in full costume for every show but most of the time never get a chance to go on stage. How frustrating!

***Activities***

-Look at the virtual seat plan. Where do you think would be best to sit and watch the show? Why? Weigh up the pros and cons of the different seating areas.

-How many people do you think the theatre seats? Have a guess.

-If Mrs Walker started a *‘Rhu Primary School of Rock’* what part would you like to play and why? You might want to be a musician, singer, dancer or help backstage with costume, set design or lighting. Practise for your audition, send a tape in-you never know!

- There are children as young as you in this show. They audition against thousands of other children and if they are lucky enough to get a part, they get paid about £100 a show. There are usually 7 shows a week. How much money are the children making in a month? A year?

-You’ll notice the drum kit on the stage. There is a free app called GarageBand where you can play the virtual drums-have a go! See if you can play along to some of the rock music featured in this show.

**Buckingham Palace** (nearest tube station-Victoria, Green Park and Hyde Park Corner)

Take a tour to see where The Queen lives….

<https://www.royal.uk/virtual-tours-buckingham-palace>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FtGN2wK9g_s>

We are so lucky to be able to see the changing of the guards <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uNlByK9qCR8>

***Did you know?***

-The tall black hats the Guards wear are called Bearskins, which are made from Canadian bear fur.

-The Queen’s Guards protect all the Queen’s palaces and Royal landmarks, including Edinburgh’s Palace of Holyrood House and Edinburgh Castle.

-Smile for a selfie?  No matter how many jokes you make or photos you take the royal guards’ sombre expression will not crack. The guards are in active service to the Queen and must carry themselves with the upmost discipline. If they are caught laughing or even smiling by a superior, they could be charged a hefty £200 fine!

- The Queen’s guards are so dedicated to their position that they can’t even leave their post for a toilet break during their working shift.

***Activities***

Here is a floor plan of the palace <https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/8/81/Plan_of_Buckingham_palace.gif>

-Imagine you are the monarch. Draw a floorplan of your ideal palace and be as adventurous as you wish-it’s your palace now! If you want to up level your work, draw to scale.

-Would you like to be a Queen’s Guard when you are older? Explain your answer.

-Design a new Queen’s Guard uniform-it’s about time for a change!

-The Bearskins are up to 45cm tall and weigh around 700 grams. What can you find in your house that weighs the same? Can you imagine wearing that on your head?

-Try to make the Queen’s Guard laugh-write down some jokes to tell him and see if you can get him to giggle!

**London Zoo** (nearest tube station Camden Town and Regent’s Park)

From the comfort of your own dens, burrows and nests you’ll get the best of London Zoo here: <https://www.zsl.org/zsl-london-zoo/virtual-london-zoo>

***Did you know?***

-London Zoo houses a collection of 755 species of animals, with 15,104 individuals, making it one of the largest collections in the United Kingdom.

-Children’s story Winnie-the-Pooh was inspired by a female black bear called Winnie that lived at London Zoo from 1914 until her death in 1934. Unlike most bears, was extremely tame and enjoyed being handled. Author Alan Alexander Milne changed the name of his iconic character from Pooh to Winnie-the-Pooh after visiting the Zoo with his son, Christopher Robin, and being inspired by the bear.

-In 1865, London Zoo became home to an African bull elephant named Jumbo and was the inspiration behind the word now found in the English dictionary meaning extremely large.

***Activities***

-Have a look at the different videos on London Zoo’s website. Which one did you enjoy watching the most and why? Did you discover anything you didn’t already know?

-Here is the list of the animals and exhibits <https://www.zsl.org/zsl-london-zoo/exhibits>. Make a voice recording or video of yourself, pretending you are there discovering them for the first time for a new animal discovery programme. Pretend the animal has never been seen before and describe how it moves, behaves and looks. You never know, you could be the next David Attenborough.

-Imagine you work at the zoo. Write a timetable for yourself on an average day-you have got to make enough time to feed and clean out the animals as well as check they are healthy. Will you have enough time to fit it all in?

-London Zoo is trying to raise money to help the animals. What ideas do you have to help raise funds for this charity and how much do you think you could raise?

-Combine features from your favourite animals to draw a hybrid animal. For example, a Tigon (tiger and lion) or a Zebkey (zebra and monkey).

**Natural History Museum** (nearest tube station-South Kensington)

Visit this world renowned museum with a virtual self-guided tour of the galleries, an interactive experience about Hope the blue whale and audio guides narrated by Sir David Attenborough <https://www.nhm.ac.uk/visit/virtual-museum.html>

***Did you know?***

- The Natural History Museum in London holds**the world’s most important natural history collection.**

**-** It’s really, really big! The museum’s collection includes more than 70 million botanical items, 55 million animal exhibits, nine million archaeological relics and 500,000 rocks and minerals. Around four million people visit the museum every year.

- **One of the most famous and certainly most prominent of the exhibits -**nicknamed **“Dippy”** - is a 32-meter (105-foot)-long replica of a Diplodocus carnegii skeleton which was on display for many years within the central hall.

- **The Museum houses one of the world’s most important dinosaur collections**.

- The **Museum’s zoology collection** consists of over 29 million animal specimens.

***Activities***

-There are so many ideas of things you can make and create at home on the website

<https://www.nhm.ac.uk/take-part/try-this-at-home.html>

-Some ideas on the website are making a flower press, building a home for hedgehogs, making bird cakes in recycled containers, designing mini-beast pitfalls and all things dinosaur!