

Archaeology

Topographic maps



Pupils will gain an understanding of how to decipher topographical maps and how they are used by archaeologists, as well as architects, planners, and people who enjoy hill walking. A practical task will embed their understanding of how the contours of a site relate to a 2D drawing. The lesson will contribute to pupils' map reading skills and enhance their knowledge of the Mill Waters site.

WHAT YOU WILL NEED

- Arch_L2TS** Topographic maps
- Arch_L2TN** Topographic maps
- Arch_L2HO1** How to read a topographic map
- Arch_L2HO2** Examples of topographic maps/plans including a topographic map of Portland Viaduct
- Arch_L2HO3** Create your own topographic map. You will need modelling dough or clay for this activity.
- Arch_L2HO4** Topographic map of Mill Waters jigsaw

LEARNING ACTIVITIES

1. Pupils will use the guidelines provided to decipher a collection of topographic maps including a plan of the Portland Viaduct at Mill Waters Heritage Site.
2. They will also have the opportunity to create their own mountain using modelling dough or clay and by drawing around the circumference at equal distances, create their own topographic map.
3. Pupils can also piece together a jigsaw puzzle of a topographic map of the Mill Waters site – carefully matching the contours and distinctive features of the site.

Archaeology

Topographic maps



LINKS TO THE CURRICULUM

GEOGRAPHY

Key Stage 1

Interpret a range of sources of geographical information, including maps, diagrams, globes, aerial photographs and Geographical Information Systems (GIS).

Use aerial photographs and plan perspectives to recognise landmarks and basic human and physical features; devise a simple map; and use and construct basic symbols in a key.

Use basic geographical vocabulary to refer to:

- key physical features, including: beach, cliff, coast, forest, hill, mountain, sea, ocean, river, soil, valley, vegetation, season and weather.
- key human features, including: city, town, village, factory, farm, house, office, port, harbour and shop.

Key Stage 2

Geographical skills and fieldwork

Use maps, atlases, globes and digital/computer mapping to locate countries and describe features studied.