

Map Reading

at Mill Waters heritage site



In this lesson, pupils will learn how historic maps can provide clues about how the landscape, as well as land use, has changed over the years. Although this is a stand-alone lesson, it complements the History of the Mills and the Mansfield and Pinxton Railway modules by embedding knowledge about the industrial heritage of the site.

Pupils will learn how to decode historic maps and learn the common Ordnance Survey symbols. They will also undertake field-based activities which will build their competency in map reading, as well as translating information from the real world into a modern OS Explorer map format.

WHAT YOU WILL NEED

MR_LO	Lesson Overview
MR_TN	Teacher's Notes
MR_TS	Teacher's Slides
MR_HO1	Pack of historic and modern maps
MR_HO2	Common OS map symbols
MR_HO3	Mapping Mill Waters toolkit
MR_HO4	Map of Mansfield to Pinxton Railway line

LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Pupils will learn about how maps have evolved over the years and be guided to compare historic maps and modern maps to see what has changed. They will answer questions about features relating to the Mill Waters site and consider what the changes on the maps tell us.

A field trip activity will embed pupils' knowledge of the common OS symbols, as well as their knowledge of the Mill Waters site. Following their visit they will be able to embed photographs taken at the site into Google Maps.

Pupils will also be able to create a map showing the route from their school to the Mill Waters heritage site, applying what they learn about the map legend (symbols) and scale.

There is the option to recreate a large-scale map of the original Mansfield and Pinxton Railway line which would once have crossed the Mill Waters heritage site over Portland Viaduct.

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LINKS TO THE CURRICULUM

GEOGRAPHY

Geographic skills and fieldwork

Key Stage 1

- Use world maps, atlases and globes to identify the United Kingdom and its countries, as well as the countries, continents and oceans studied at this key stage.
- Use simple compass directions (north, east, south and west) and locational and directional language (for example, near and far/left and right), to describe the location of features and routes on a map.
- 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 simple fieldwork and observational skills to study the geography of their school and its grounds, and the key human and physical features of the surrounding environment.

Key Stage 2

- Use maps, atlases, globes and digital/computer mapping to locate countries and describe features studied.
- Use the eight points of a compass, four and six-figure grid references, symbols and key (including the use of Ordnance Survey maps) to build their knowledge of the United Kingdom and the wider world.
- Use fieldwork to observe, measure, record and present the human and physical features in the local area using a range of methods, including sketch maps, plans and graphs, and digital technologies.