

LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

A very wide range of educational projects are available to visitors to Hornsea. Although the planning of the programme is the responsibility of the party leader, the Centre Manager will be happy to provide advice or assistance should it be necessary.

The following is an outline of the main possibilities, loosely grouped by curriculum area. There are, of course, areas of overlap between categories since many venues can be used in several different ways according to the needs of the group. Social and educational benefits can also be obtained from many visits and outings, this is in addition to any specific curricular objectives.

The list that follows is not, of course, exclusive. There are many other possible options and the educational work of the Centre is subject to an ongoing process of development and improvement.

Party leaders need to book any outside visits and venues themselves and make their own transport arrangements. The Centre Manager will be happy to provide advice and liaison in the event of difficulty. Any fees or admission charges involved need to be paid directly by the group or school.

For ease of reference, the telephone numbers of venues are grouped together with those of other contacts into a single list, a copy of which can be found under 'Related Downloads' called 'Useful Telephone Numbers'.

SCIENCE

There are many good locations for field work around the area. Because of the very wide range of sites available, there are excellent possibilities for comparative studies. If contacted in advance the Centre Manager will assist with the search for suitable venues for any specific project. As with all such work, care should be taken not to cause any damage or disturbance to the environment. Wherever possible, living material should be observed in situ and not collected.

There are several particularly good venues for the study of shoreline ecology in the areas of Flamborough Head, Filey and Hornsea. A visit to the Scarborough Sea Life Centre can provide a useful back-up to such work.

Hornsea Mere is an SSSI. It is of international importance and is managed by the RSPB. Ornithology here is particularly rewarding during the winter months. At these times migratory birds are present in huge numbers. At anytime of the year, close contact can be made with semi-tame ducks, geese and swans at Kirkholme Point. During the summer, boat trips are available on the Mere.

The RSPB reserve at Bempton Cliffs is a key nesting site for sea birds. The view points will provide an interesting and spectacular view at any time from early spring to early autumn.

By prior arrangement, Trevor Charlton, the RSPB Area Warden, can give an excellent talk and slide show at the Centre. This is adjusted to suit the ages and abilities of the children and can focus either on Bempton or the Mere.

Hornsea Freeport is a short walk away from the Centre. It has a 'Butterfly World' where children can walk amongst exotic tropical butterflies. It is advisable to book in advance for a group visit.

The areas coastline provides many opportunities for geological study, both of coastal processes and also of the rocks exposed at the shore. Near the Centre the coast consists of low cliffs of boulder clay. Active erosion can be seen and the longshore drift of beach can also be observed.

Because of the glacial origin of most of the pebbles, a very wide range of rock types is present on the local beach and fossils from a wide spread of epochs can also be found. Further north at Flamborough Head, chalk is exposed as high cliffs with a wave cut platform. Caves, arches, stacks and associated features can all easily be seen.

In the near future it is hoped to involve children at the Centre in practical conservation work. It is hoped to develop a part of the site grounds into a wildlife conservation area.

The Centre's classroom has water, gas and electricity supplies and is equipped with a small amount of simple science apparatus. It thus has the potential to be used as a basic field laboratory.

HUMANITIES

There are many possibilities for geographical projects in the area. Hornsea is a small seaside town in a rural area and offers scope for comparative studies, either with the home area of pupils or with the nearby city of Hull.

A number of visits with a geographical emphasis are available. The John Bull Factory, Bridlington Life Boat Station, Hull Docks and Honeysuckle Farm. The farm is within walking distance of the Centre and provides the children with the opportunity to study the difference between traditional and modern farming methods. They can also have 'hands-on' contact with a variety of farm animals.

Resources are available locally for backing up work on a wide range of history topics. The local museum focuses on the Victorian era, although it does have material from other periods. Other historical venues within easy reach include, Beverley Minster, Eden Camp (World War 11), The Grimsby Fishing Heritage Centre and The Hull Town Docks Museum (formally the Whaling Museum).

A lecture with slides on the history of Hornsea, mainly the Victorian era, is available by arrangement. This normally takes place at the Centre in the evening and can greatly help to bring the past to life for the children.

There are also many possibilities for field study of local history. A town trail for Hornsea is available which has historical emphasis. The site of a medieval village that was abandoned after the Black Death lies close to the Centre. There is also a Second World War 'pill box' just across the road. A practical investigation of the history of the old railway line is also possible. In addition, there are many sites that sharply illustrate change over time, especially where the impact of coastal erosion has been dramatic.

THE ARTS

The Centre has been successfully used in the past for music and drama courses and some groups include work of this type in their programmes. The hall at the Centre lends itself well to these activities and is equipped with a 'karaoke' machine and piano.

Hull has a good range of theatres and cinemas. Both The *Hull* Truck Company Theatre and Hull New Theatre host interesting productions and welcomes visits from school parties.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND ADVENTURE ACTIVITIES

The Centre site covers approximately 45 acres and includes a large flat field which is suitable for ball games, sport and training.

There are many possibilities for orienteering and navigation exercises, both on the site itself and in the surrounding area.

A modern indoor swimming pool is situated on the sea front within easy walking distance. This is excellent for group activities but must be booked in advance.

Attractive walks of varying length are available locally. The surrounding countryside has an extensive network of footpaths, lanes and quiet minor roads. Variety can be increased by including a stretch of beach and part of the disused railway line. Farther afield, spectacular cliff top walks are available in the Flamborough Head area.

A 'night walk' led by the Centre Manager across fields and taking in a stretch of unlit, quiet country road is available on the groups first evening of residence during the dark winter months. If this would be useful to you, further details should be requested.