

Activities to do before you go

We have provided you with a selection of activities that you may wish to do before your visit. They are designed to be adapted to suit the needs of your class across EYFS, KS1 and KS2. They will prepare children for a visit and stimulate interest and intrigue about their local burial ground.

Try these activities if you are working towards the following badges and challenges:

Rainbows - Look and Learn

Beavers - Explorer

Brownies - Skills, Finding Your Way, Out and About

Cubs - Local Knowledge

Guides - Finding Your Way



Activity 1

Learning Outcome

Children will know that people have different views about death and remembrance

This activity is designed to encourage discussion in order to establish children's thoughts and feelings about burial grounds, death and remembrance.

Send a letter addressed to the class inviting them to visit their local burial ground or arrange for a package to be delivered. The package could contain items to use as a starting point for discussion and to stimulate the children's interest in their visit. The objects could include a sympathy card, a photograph, a bunch of flowers, a symbol, a headstone rubbing, a story such as 'Michael Rosen's Sad Book' or a natural item from a burial ground such as a seed or leaf.

Discussion point – How do we feel when people we care about die? What do you expect to see at a burial ground?

Resources The *photo pack* included in this pack could be printed for use in this activity or displayed on an interactive whiteboard.

Activity 2

Learning Outcome

Children will understand that we behave differently in different places

Children will reflect upon how agreed codes of conduct affect their behaviour

This activity is designed to prepare teachers and children for a visit to a burial ground and to ensure that all feel welcome and confident to explore.

Use the accompanying advice in 'Preparation before a visit' to steer children into creating a useable burial ground code of conduct. Children should create a set of rules on how they think their class should behave during their visit to a burial ground. Children could design a colourful poster to display their rules.

Discussion point - Why should we behave respectfully in a burial ground?

Resources The *Code of Conduct* template included in this pack can be used to support this activity.

Activity 3

Learning Outcome

Children will create a map to plan a route in the local area and find out the location of local burial grounds

This activity is designed to support a local studies topic and encourages children to investigate their local area.

Find the burial ground you intend to visit on a local map and plan your route to it. You could also find the burial ground on Google Earth and locate other burial grounds in your area. Discussion points - How will you get there? How far away is it? How long will it take? What do you notice? Why do think it is located there?