

cubs

LOCAL KNOWLEDGE BADGE!



A step-by-step guide for Leaders

Look inside for

TOP TIPS FOR GETTING STARTED

EASY ACCESS TO LOCAL INFORMATION

FREE VISITS TO 400 ENGLISH HERITAGE SITES FOR YOUR CUB SCOUT PACK



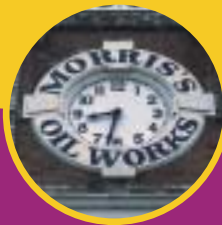
At English Heritage we encourage people to enjoy, understand and appreciate England's historic environment. We want to make learning about our past interesting and relevant to today's young people. Why? Because they're the future guardians of our heritage. We want and need them to care about it. That's why we're supporting the Cub Scout Local Knowledge Badge. And why we're offering FREE visits for Cub Scout Packs to over 400 English Heritage sites. We are also proud to sponsor the Scout Heritage Badge, ideal for Cub Scouts to develop their interest further as they move up.

You can do your bit by encouraging your Cub Scouts to work for the Local Knowledge Badge and giving them direction. In this booklet we've included lots of suggestions on how to get them started, with details of organisations all over the UK who will be only too happy to point them in the right direction.



FINDING OUT ABOUT THE HISTORY AND HERITAGE OF YOUR LOCAL AREA CAN BE FUN

SO GET OUT THERE!



ENGLISH HERITAGE



To achieve the **Local Knowledge Badge**, a **Cub Scout** must choose any three of the following:

- 1 Find out about someone who lived in or near the local area who was or is famous OR visit and find out about a famous old building, monument, earthwork or other place of historical interest. Discuss what is found out with the Pack Leader or other Cub Scouts.
- 2 Find out the meaning of, and collect pictures of, either the Cub Scout's County, Borough, District, town or village coat of arms. Tell a Leader in how many different places this has been seen displayed.
- 3 Talk to someone who has lived in the area for a long time. Find out about what they did when they were young and what changes they have seen over the past years.
- 4 Draw a map of the local area and mark on it places of interest for visitors.
- 5 With other Cub Scouts, go on a short walk in the local area. Point out to the Leader(s) any features of interest.
- 6 Visit a local emergency service station such as police, fire, and ambulance services, coastguard or mountain rescue. Find out how the station is run.
- 7 Mark on a map or chart the services and organisations that help the community, such as a doctors' surgery, Age Concern, fire or police station, Meals on Wheels and so forth.

How the Badge works

A Cub Scout can complete the Badge working individually, or the whole Pack can work on it together. To gain the badge, a Cub Scout must pass the requirements of three of the options listed left. Work for the badge should be fun rather than a strict test. When you assess it, you can award a badge if a Cub Scout has done his or her personal best and has only just missed the absolute badge requirements. You should use your judgement and modify the requirements to allow for different levels of ability or special needs.

The best free days out in history

Cub Scout Packs can visit our 400 historic sites free of charge. They can discover at first hand how people lived through the ages and see where our history was really made. There are spectacular castles, abbeys, prehistoric and Roman sites, and grand historic houses. Many of them are associated with great characters from Henry VIII and Elizabeth I to Queen Victoria, were the scene of major battles and sieges or have been used as authentic backdrops in films and on TV. We organise hundreds of exciting events on our sites each summer, which include historical re-enactments, living history, music and drama. Cub Scout Packs receive entry at a discount rate to any event.

All our sites are described in the region-by-region colour guides, *Free Educational Visits*, available free by calling 0870 333 1181 or emailing education@english-heritage.org.uk. You can also find full details on our website www.HeritageEducation.net



WEDNESDAY MARKET

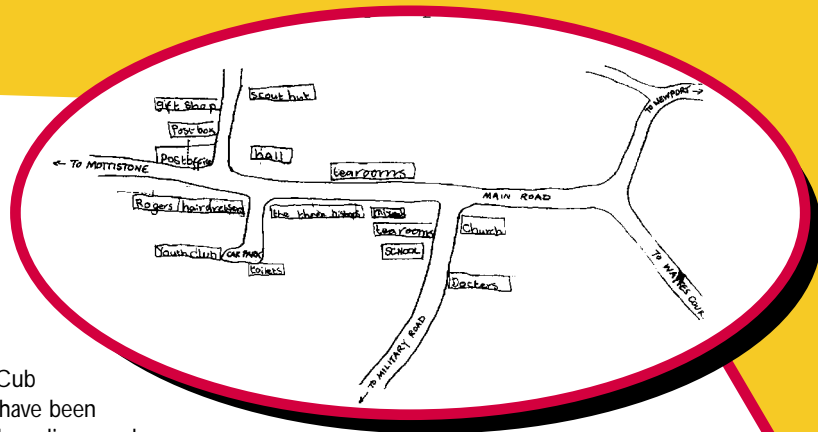


DISCOVER HISTORY ON YOUR DOORSTEP

A little bit of detective work can uncover a fascinating piece of history right on your own doorstep – wherever you live in the UK. Perhaps there was an important inventor, writer or politician who lived nearby, or there was a famous local event or battle. We all know about streets, parks, schools or buildings named after someone – but do we know why? Sometimes the small things prove to be the most interesting. Maybe there's a secret history to your own Scout headquarters!

MENTAL MAPS

Although they don't realise it, most people are remarkably unaware of their own environment. They think that they have noticed everything, but in fact they have retained only a small part of what they see. To demonstrate this, ask each Cub Scout to draw from memory as detailed a map as they can of their route to the Scout meeting place, their school or local high street, marking in as many of the buildings as they can. Most Cub Scouts will record very few buildings. A group survey of what was marked by individual Cub Scouts will also yield interesting results. Some buildings will have been remembered by most and others by none. The Pack might then discuss why some buildings are more memorable than others.



DOING A LOCAL WALK

A walk around the local area is the obvious follow-up. Cub Scouts can now go out and check their maps drawn from memory against the real places. They could use different colours to show old and new buildings or different types – such as domestic, commercial or recreational. Open spaces in a built-up area may reflect a past event or past use; for example an old market area no longer used and turned into a car park. Street and building names are a fascinating source of information. Cub Scouts might make a set of photographs with captions to present to the Pack or Leader.

ASK YOUR CUB SCOUTS TO

- Note which buildings they find interesting and say why.
- Note which buildings they think are the oldest. What sorts of features do they have in common (styles, materials, size, and so on)?
- Look for changes in the use of buildings: old shop signs painted high on walls or blocked windows and doors often give a clue here.
- Look out for new buildings which are decorated to look old (fake leaded windows, half-timbered fronts and so on).
- Look for clues about the people who own or live in the building. Are they rich/poor, young/old? What do names tell us?
- Look out for buildings that are derelict, empty or falling down. What could be done with them?

You could hold an interesting follow-up discussion with the whole Pack about the area you live in.



HOW TO FIND INFORMATION

- Look for help locally before you start surfing the net! Try your local library or museum, and find out where your nearest local record office is. There will be experts who can offer help. Look in local bookshops or the library for collections of photos from the past.
- Local people are a really good source of information. You will usually find that older neighbours or relatives like reminiscing about the past. Your community might also have a local history society, church warden or someone who looks after an old building.
- If your home or Scout meeting place is near an English Heritage historic site, why not make that the subject of your project?
- Many places have plaques on buildings drawing attention to famous people associated with them or events from the past. Ask your library or museum if your town has something similar and if there is a list or information about them. In addition to local schemes, English Heritage itself has issued over 800 Blue Plaques. Most of these are in London but there are now plaques in Liverpool (including one for John Lennon), Birmingham, Portsmouth and Southampton. You can find out more by visiting the English Heritage website.

THE BEST DAYS OUT IN HISTORY

English Heritage offers Cub Scout Packs FREE admission to our 400 historic sites countrywide. Full details of how to arrange and book a trip can be found in our free colour region-by-region guides, *Free Educational Visits*.

SCOUT HERITAGE BADGE

English Heritage also supports the Scout Heritage Badge and has produced a special step-by-step Leader's guide, packed with ideas to help. Free copies of this booklet and a colourful A2-size poster about the Scout Heritage Badge and Cub Scout Local Knowledge Badge are available from the Scout Information Centre. Tel 0845 3001818 or order online through www.scoutbase.org.uk



You can obtain any of the above and find out more about English Heritage, our properties and the hundreds of exciting special events we organise each year by calling 0870 333 1181 or visiting our website www.HeritageEducation.net



ENGLISH HERITAGE

USEFUL ORGANISATIONS

- You can find out about museums in your area online by visiting www.24hourmuseum.org.uk
- Images of England is a project by English Heritage to provide a photographic record with information about all listed (legally protected) buildings in England. See www.imagesofengland.org.uk
- National Monuments Record, Kemble Drive, Swindon SN2 2GZ, Tel 01793 414700. This is the public archive of English Heritage, offering information and free photocopies of historic photographs of your area.
- Ordnance Survey – www.ordsvy.gov.uk offers excellent resources including Get-a-map, a free service allowing you to search for maps of all parts of the UK and print or copy them, including historical maps so you can see what your neighbourhood looked like in the 19th century. The OS children's site www.mapzone.co.uk makes mapping fun and interesting and includes soft-learning activities and online games for 7-14 year olds.
- Churches Conservation Trust, 89 Fleet Street, London EC4Y 1DH. The Trust offers free educational visits to over 300 churches no longer used for regular worship. Visit www.visitchurches.org.uk for details.
- Civic Trust, 17 Carlton House Terrace, London SW17 5AW. Tel 020 7930 0914. A national umbrella organisation for hundreds of local amenity societies and a good source of information and local knowledge.
- Historic Scotland, Longmore House, Salisbury Place, Edinburgh EH9 1SH. For information, call the Education Manager, on 0131 668 8732 or visit www.historic-scotland.gov.uk
- CADW Welsh Historic Monuments, National Assembly for Wales, Cathays Park, Cardiff CF10 3NQ. Tel 02920 826174. For information on their 130 sites in Wales including reduced admission for Cub Scout Packs and Scout Troops visit www.cadw.wales.gov.uk.

