

Yorkshire Museum

Discover: Prehistoric Yorkshire Teachers' Workshop Pack



Image: Children uncover the secrets of an Iron Age hoard at the Yorkshire Museum. © Image courtesy of York Museums Trust, photo by Gareth Buddo.

Email: schools@ymt.org.uk

Workshop overview

Uncover 100,000,000 years of history at the Yorkshire Museum in our **Discover: Prehistoric Yorkshire** workshop. Explore the museum and handle real objects from our collections to get an insight into life in Yorkshire during the Stone, Bronze and Iron Ages. Afterwards create your own copy of the Star Carr pendant – one of the earliest pieces of decorative art found in Britain –, or make a cast of a bronze axe head using clay.

Location

The Yorkshire Museum
Museum Gardens
Museum Street
York
YO1 7FR

Workshop times

10am–12pm or 12.30–2.30pm.

Age group

Key Stage Two.

Numbers

Maximum group size of
34 pupils per workshop.

We can accommodate up to two groups from your school on a single day, with a maximum of 30 pupils per workshop (60 pupils in total).

Session fees

£7 per pupil. For groups of 22 or less, there is a flat fee of £154 per workshop.

This includes entry to the Yorkshire Museum should you wish to make a self-guided visit before or after your workshop.



What to expect

During this session, pupils will:

- **Explore** our prehistory galleries by completing two discovery challenges. These will give pupils an insight into the Melsonby Hoard – a mysterious collection of precious Iron Age objects – and how life in Yorkshire changed between the Stone, Bronze, and Iron Ages.
- Get **hands-on** with replica or real artefacts using one of our prehistory object boxes. These will shed light on what everyday life was like during the Mesolithic (**Life at Star Carr**), or how materials and technologies changed between the Stone, Bronze and Iron Ages (**From Stone, to Bronze, to Iron**).

- Learn through **play** by creating a copy of one of the earliest pieces of Mesolithic art discovered in Britain (**The Star Carr Pendant**) or by creating a cast of a bronze axe head using clay (**Secrets of Bronze**).

Our **Discover: Prehistoric Yorkshire** workshop is led by an expert member of our Learning Team.

You can select which prehistory object box (**Life at Star Carr** or **From Stone, to Bronze, to Iron**) and play-based activity (**The Star Carr Pendant** or **Secrets of Bronze**) you would like us to deliver as part of your workshop during the booking process.

Risk assessment

You will be sent a copy of our **Discover: Prehistoric Yorkshire Workshop Risk Assessment** once a booking has been made.



Curriculum links

Our **Discover: Prehistoric Yorkshire** workshop can be used to cover the following curriculum areas:

Key Stage Two

Pupils should be taught about:

- Changes in Britain from the Stone Age to the Iron Age

This could include:

- Late neolithic hunter-gatherers and early farmers
- Bronze Age religion, technology and travel
- Iron Age hill forts: tribal kingdoms, farming, art and culture
- A local history study



Workshop outline A (single class of up to 34 pupils)

Time	Activity	Location
10–10.35am 12.30–1.05pm	Arrival at the Yorkshire Museum. Pupils will store their belongings and receive a welcome briefing from the session lead. Pupils will be introduced to the Stone, Bronze and Iron Ages through an interactive timeline activity.	The Rec Room and The Discovery Den
10.35–11.05am 1.05–1.35pm	Pupils will split into two groups and explore our prehistory galleries whilst alternating between the following activities: Mystery of the Melsonby Hoard Pupils must track down six star objects discovered by archaeologists in the Melsonby Hoard to find out what life was like in the north of Britain during the Iron Age. Across the Ages Pupils must hunt for six star objects which provide evidence for how life changed between the Stone, Bronze and Iron Ages.	Secrets of the Melsonby Hoard (Mystery of the Melsonby Hoard) After the Ice: Yorkshire's Prehistoric People (Across the Ages)
11.05–11.50am 1.35–2.20pm	Pupils will get hands-on with history using one of our two prehistory object boxes. You can choose between: Life at Star Carr This box uses a digital mural to transport pupils back to the Mesolithic. Children will handle replica objects made by experimental archaeologists at the University of York to discover what everyday life was like 11,300 years ago. From Stone, to Bronze, to Iron This box contains objects from our collections that will give children an insight into how materials and technologies changed between the Stone, Bronze and Iron Ages.	The Discovery Den

Time	Activity	Location
11.05–11.50am 1.35–2.20pm	Pupils will complete one of two play-based activities. You can choose between: The Star Carr Pendant Pupils will use clay to create a copy of the Star Carr pendant – one of the earliest pieces of decorative art found in Britain. Secrets of Bronze Pupils will use clay to make a cast of a bronze axe head based on examples on display at the Yorkshire Museum.	The Discovery Den
11.50am–12pm 2.20–2.30pm	Plenary and evaluation	The Discovery Den

Your preferred **object box** and **play-based** activity can be selected during the booking process.



Workshop outline B (two classes of up to 60 pupils in total)

Group One	Group Two
Both groups arrive at the Yorkshire Museum (10am)	
Discover: Prehistoric Yorkshire Workshop (10am–12pm)	Self-guided visit to the Yorkshire Museum (10am–12pm)
Self-guided visit to the Yorkshire Museum (12–12.30pm)	Lunch (12–12:30pm)
Lunch (12.30–1pm)	Discover: Prehistoric Yorkshire Workshop (12.30–2.30pm)
Self-guided visit to the Yorkshire Museum (1–2.30pm)	
Both groups depart the Yorkshire Museum (2.30pm)	

Cancellation Policy

If you need to cancel your workshop booking, then please give us as much notice as possible so that we can offer your slot to another group.

If a booking is cancelled less than one week before your visit date, then your school will be charged a cancellation fee amounting to 50% of the visit fee.

If a booking is cancelled less than 24 hours before your visit date, then your school will be charged a cancellation fee amounting to 100% of the visit fee.

Key vocabulary

Evidence, artefact, prehistory, Palaeolithic, Mesolithic, Neolithic, flint, bronze, iron, hunter-gatherer, Brigantes, Parisi, Whitby jet, coral, ceremony, hoard.

Get in touch!

If you require further information about our **Discover: Prehistoric Yorkshire** workshop or making a visit to the Yorkshire Museum, then please get in touch with our Learning Team at schools@ymt.org.uk or call **01904 650348**.

The Yorkshire Museum is part of York Museums Trust. Charity number 1092466.

