

Blackberry Picking is an educational experience based on Seamus Heaney's much-loved poem of the same name tailored to Key Stage Two pupils which includes: an abridged exhibition tour, perfect for younger visitors; a shared reading and exploration of the poem 'Blackberry Picking'; a tasty Blackberry Picnic; and an opportunity to be creative using blackberry ink. A dedicated team of guides, a creative learning officer, and an education officer will be here to enrich your learning experience.

Curriculum Areas of Learning addressed by this programme:

Communication

Pupils should be provided with opportunities to:

- listen to, respond to, and explore a wide range of stories and poems;
- talk about stories, expressing thoughts, feelings, and opinions in response to literature;
- participate in shared reading activities, and read and be read to a wide selection of poetry
- use a range of comprehension skills to discuss and interpret texts
- use evidence from texts to explain opinions
- understand and use a wide range of vocabulary in their writing, write without prompting, making their own word choices, participate in shared, guided, independent writing

The World Around Us

Pupils should be provided with opportunities to explore:

- the interdependence of people and the environment;
- change over time in local places;
- how place influences the nature of life
- ways in which change occurs in the natural world

Personal Development and Mutual Understanding

Pupils should be provided with opportunities to:

- develop knowledge, understanding and skills in their own and others' feelings and emotions and how their actions affect others;
- develop their self-esteem and self-confidence;
- play an active and meaningful part in the life of the community and be concerned about the wider environment.

The Arts

Pupils should be provided with opportunities to:

- engage with observing, investigating, and responding to first hand experiences, memory and imagination;
- develop their understanding of the visual elements of colour, tone, line, shape, form, space, texture and pattern to communicate their ideas;
- evaluate their own and others' work and how it was made, explain and share their ideas discuss difficulties and review and modify work to find solutions;
- use a range of media, materials, and tools

Thinking Skills and Personal Capabilities addressed by this programme:

- Managing information;
- Being creative;
- Working with others;
- Self-management

As a result of participation in the Blackberry Picking programme pupils will receive a greater appreciation of the world around them and a real sense of pride in their local environment, each instilled through the work of Seamus Heaney.

For information and booking, please email our Education Officer roisin.convery@midulstercouncil.org or call Seamus Heaney HomePlace on 028 79387444

