

A Soldiers Life:

An Early Years Foundation Stage Workshop

A fun and active museum workshop that explores the life of a REME soldier. They will explore the vehicles they work with as well as the uniform they wear. After exploring the importance of medals, pupils can make and take home their own version. This session has been put together with the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) statutory framework in mind.

Session Outcomes

All pupils will know more about life in the REME such as fixing vehicles, the uniform they wear and that medals are given for bravery and good deeds.

Pupils will discover more about the structure of vehicles (e.g. wheels, frame and axels) and the properties of a soldier's uniform (e.g. camouflage, materials used and how these have changed over the years). They will have a chance to touch and explore objects and make items that reflect what they have learnt.

Sample Timetables

Timetables can be tailored to suite your classes requirements, please talk to our Education Officer for more details.

One class timetable (maximum of 30 children plus adults)

Time	Duration	Task
9:45 - 10:00	15 min	Arrival, cloakroom and toilet visit
10:00 - 10:05	5 min	Welcome by Museum staff member
10:05 - 10:20	15 min	Explore 1 st part of the Museum
10:20 - 10:50	30 min	Truck building activity

10:50 - 11:00	10 min	Break
11:00 - 11:20	20 min	Uniform activity
11:20 - 11:40	20 min	Explore 2 nd part of the Museum
11:40 - 12:00	20 min	Medal making activity
12:00 - 12:30	30 min	Lunch*
12:30 - 1:45	75 min	Explore the museum with curricula quiz in groups*
1:45 - 2:00	15 min	Depart and goodbye*

*optional extra, times can be adjusted to suit your class requirements.

Suggested Schedule

Welcome (5 min)

A member of staff will welcome the group. We will discuss what we will be doing during the visit. A short safety briefing will be given which includes fire evacuation procedures, no running in the Museum and no touching of the vehicles.

Explore the Museum (part 1) (15 min)

As a whole group but with the designated adults, pupils will be given a task to look for vehicles in the first part of the Museum. A member of staff will be on hand to guide this group through the gallery.

Truck building activity (30 min)

Back in the education room pupils will be given the task of either building a break down truck to carry wooden trucks in small groups or build their own little vehicle that can run down a ramp. Pupils will be encouraged to consider giving their vehicles moving wheels, strong frames and even axels. The choice of activity is down to the group leader.

Break (10 min)

A quick break is taken in the education area, adults will be shown where the toilets are.

Uniform activity (20 min)

A selection of uniform and army kit from World War 2 to modern day will be mixed in an Army trunk. With the Museum Staff's assistance, the class explore the uniform one item at a time. They will discuss its properties, use and classify as it as either old or new. After all the items have been looked at, time will be made available for the pupils to try a few items on. Photography by the group leaders during this and other activities is permitted if desired.

Explore the Museum (part 2) (20 min)

As a whole group but with the designated adults, pupils will be given a task to look for items in the Museum such as uniforms and medals. A member of staff will be on hand to guide this group through the gallery.

Medal making activity (20 min)

Back in the education area, pupils make their own medal which can be shaped and coloured to their own liking. These can be worn by the pupils with sticky tape if desired.

Curriculum areas

This session has been designed with the Early Years and Foundation Stage Statutory Framework in mind. The key learning goals are listed below. If focus in any particular area is desired, please talk to our Education Officer who will seek to amend the session to suite your requirements.

Listening and attention

The group will be listening to instructions and stories around REME and the activities they will be taking part in.

Understanding

Pupils will be asked many questions about what they see around them in the wider Museum environment with time spent focusing on certain Museum objects.

Speaking

Time will be available to discuss and explore REME, the soldiers and the kit used by them.

Moving and handling

Special handling objects will be made available for the pupils to explore. This will help them understand the life of a soldier. The workshop also contains an activity where pupils use a construction toy to build small vehicles. This task requires exercising their hand eye coordination.

Self-confidence and self-awareness

The Museum will be a new and interesting environment and we will be asking pupils to take part in activities within this environment.

Numbers

Counting games will be used to help the pupils explore the Museum and the objects that will be handled.

People and communities

Pupils will be exploring the life of a soldier in the Army, which for some will be a new community that they have not explored in the past. Children from an Army or forces family will have a chance to share parts of their community with non-forces families.

Technology

The Museum has many vehicles and objects relating to engineering in the Army and soldiers life. With assistance from Museum staff, groups will observe them, in some cases handle them then discuss their technical role in REME and the Army.

Exploring and using media and materials and being imaginative

There is two building activities in this workshop. For one pupils will use a construction toy to make a vehicles. The other task is to build a medal to their own design. They will have to use the tools and resources provided as well as their imagination to achieve these goals.

Workshop Fees

Like all workshops run by the REME Museum, this session costs just £5 per pupil. We have a minimum charge policy of £50 for groups smaller than 10 which we are happy to deliver to.

Booking and Contact Details

To make a booking or to seek more information on this or another session, please contact us at education@rememuseum.org.uk or call 01249 89 4869.

We are happy to deliver this workshop in the above format or amended to suit your outcomes. We are also happy to meet you in person in the Museum and show you where activities will take place free of charge.