



Rags to Riches

Workshop for KS1 & KS2

Information for Teachers

Introduction

'Rags to Riches' is a workshop session at the Quilt Museum and Gallery designed for Key Stage 1 and 2 pupils.

Through handling and examining real textile objects, pupils will be encouraged to think differently about caring for our environment, starting at home. Comparing old quilts from our heritage collection to contemporary recycled textile artworks and then making their own unique recycled artworks, pupils will soon realise that from old rags come new riches!

QCA links

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| • Geography Unit 1 | Around our School – the Local Area |
| • Geography Unit 8 | Improving our Environment |
| • Geography Unit 17 | Global Eye – Recycling at Home |
| • Art & Design Unit 1B | Investigating Materials |
| • Art & Design Unit 5A | Talking Textiles |
| • Citizenship Unit 1 | Taking Part: Developing Communication & Participation |
| • Citizenship Unit 08 | How do rules and laws affect me? |
| • English En1, En2, En3 | Presentation, Composition |

Learning Objectives

- To learn how what we do impacts on the environment and how we can help
- To investigate and speak about textile-based objects
- To make observations and simple comparisons with modern textiles
- To develop understanding of materials and their environmental implications
- To learn new techniques for creating artwork with different materials

- To understand what is involved in effective listening
- To listen and respond to others
- To develop skills of discussion, negotiation and cooperation in a group

Workshop

This workshop is suitable for up to 35 pupils and lasts approximately 1 hour.

The workshop takes place in the Education Room and will be led by a fully trained Learning Facilitator.

The Learning Facilitator tells a story (KS1) or initiates a discussion (KS2) about recycling at home and the impact of certain materials on the environment using familiar objects as clues (10 minutes). In groups students will then examine small collections of textile objects -some old, some new- and make links between the purpose of the objects, materials used and methods of production. They will then choose a favourite object to explain (KS1) or organise a mini presentation about their discoveries (KS2) for the class (15 minutes).

The Learning Facilitator will then bring the class back together to look at two contrasting examples of recycled textiles, explaining how each is made and the ideas behind them (5 minutes). After a quick demonstration and any safety reminders the groups will reform to produce their own recycled artworks for a mini exhibition aimed at telling people all about recycling at home (25 minutes).

To conclude, students will present their artwork and explain a little bit about what they used and why (5 minutes).

The Galleries

We have two galleries that support the Rags to Riches workshop and we highly recommend an independent gallery visit to support your pupil's learning journey.

The Heritage Gallery offers an exciting and ever-changing exhibition of quilts from the past whilst the Bailey Gallery offers the chance to see some contemporary quilts and learn how traditional quilting techniques and materials have developed.

Current Exhibition Trails and Teacher's Information Sheets are sent to all teachers who book an independent gallery visit.

Pre-visit activity suggestions

- Make a 'recycling at home' questionnaire and chart
- Study artists who use old things and create new artworks

- Produce some posters telling people what to recycle and where
- Work in groups or as a class on a recycling newsletter

Follow-up activities

- Design and make your own recycled art sculptures using non-biodegradable materials
- Make a class picture 'quilt' explaining about recycling using recycled material
- Start a 'recycling in our area' campaign with the students as government representatives. Ask key community representatives to come to school for interviews or to support the campaign.
- Hold a recycled crafts fair at school

Your 'Rags to Riches' notes:

