



School Project Case Study

William Morris Inspired Talking Textiles

Where? Rufforth Primary School

When? October 2010

Who with? Year 5 and 6 students

Total number of participants: 17 students



The 'Unfolding the Quilts' Learning Programme at the Quilt Museum is unique in that wherever possible the Education Officer has worked in partnership with local schools to create bespoke workshops that meet their individual needs. This can lead to projects being run over several weeks, or as in the case of Rufforth Primary, a session lasting one afternoon. The benefit of offering bespoke sessions is that it shows how sewing skills and textile techniques can be incorporated into all aspects of the curriculum.



In October 2010 the Quilt Museum worked with Rufforth Primary. At Rufforth, students in year five and six are taught together. The students had been learning about William Morris and had used his work to inspire their own printed fabric designs.

The class teacher was keen for the students to find out more about Victorian textiles, to learn how to decoratively stitch their individual work and to turn this work into a class quilt.

The Education Officer led an outreach afternoon for the students and their parents/guardians. The session included an object handling session to investigate Victorian textiles and a practical sewing session.

www.quiltmuseum.org.uk
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Examples of Victorian Textiles in the Quilt Museum handling collection.



The session aimed to offer a historical context through the observation of Victorian textiles. The session also encouraged inter-generational learning with the students sewing with their parents. Many of the participants had no previous experience of sewing. Through working together they were able to develop their confidence and sewing ability.

At the end of the session the Education Officer gave practical advice to the class teacher and the parents to support them with the construction of the quilt. The quilt was finished in autumn 2010 and is on display at the school.



Parents and children work together to sew individual pieces.

