

Caunton St Andrew Family tree

Aim: To explore a primary source of information.

Objective: To explore the Bristowe family tree and the relationships in the family.

Curriculum links: History

Activity: The children will use the memorials and windows in the church to explore the Bristowe family and use the information they gather to complete a family tree for the Bristowe family.

Resources:

Copies of Sheets as appropriate
Pens and clipboards
Post-it notes
Calculators for working our dates from ages

Information for Leader

If the children have done some work already in school on family trees you could miss part of the introduction.

Check with the teacher first that there aren't children in the group for whom exploring family trees could raise sensitive issues.

Activities will differ depending on the ability of the children. If you are not sure, check with the teacher before the session. They may suggest different groups do different activities.

Sheet 1 gives a completed family tree for the Bristowe family.

You may need to remind the children about Roman numerals:

I 1
V 5
X 10
L 50
C 100
D 500
M 1000

Introduction (15 mins)

- Settle the children in the pews. This might be best in the south aisle where they will be able to see the monuments, plaques and windows in memory of the Bristowe family.
- Introduce yourself with your name and then extend that to (as appropriate) your parents, spouse, children, grandchildren . . . This begins to get complicated, so draw a basic family tree for your family.
- To help the children begin to understand family trees they could each draw their immediate family tree of parents and siblings.



heritage learning welcome



Activity (30-40 mins)

Point out the windows which were dedicated to the Bristowe family and the plaques and memorials with their details on. Read one or two to get the feel of the language and to explore what we can learn from them. Choose from the following as appropriate for the children you are working with.

- Give the children copies of Sheet 1. They can look at the plaques and windows and see where the people on the tree are mentioned and note this on their tree.
- Give the children copies of Sheet 2. This contains names of members of the Bristowe family, without dates or names of who they married. Using the information on the windows and wall the children, in groups, complete the names and dates as fully as they can.
- Give the children copies of Sheet 3. This contains a template for the Bristowe family tree, but with the details of only one couple included. In groups the children complete the family tree as fully as possible. They might do this by collecting information on individuals and writing this on post-it notes, which they can then stick on the tree as they think appropriate, and move people as new information becomes available.

As the children are working watch and check if there is one piece of information they are all missing. You could stop and discuss this if it happens.

Plenary (5 mins)

Bring the children together seated in the pews.

Compare their family trees. Where have they struggled to find information? Point out where the information they are missing is.

Have a quiz with each group asking the others questions about the family, i.e. Who is Samuel Ellis's sister? When was Isabella born? Who was Henry Fox's grandmother? Make it fun rather than for a 'winner'.

Extension

- Children could explore their own family trees further.
- Look at family trees of the royal family.





