



Activity Information for Teachers:  
**Arms & Armour**



Suitable for Key Stages 2 & 3

**Description of session and Key concepts covered:**

A hands-on activity covering the role of the common soldier (The Pikeman, Musketeer and Dragoon) with a chance to see weaponry and armour. The session can also involve an explanation of The Commandery's role before and during the Battle of Worcester, with a discussion of the causes of the Civil War. Pupils will also discover how to communicate on the battlefield using drums and colours.

**Links to significant events/people nationally and/or locally:**

English Civil War – local impact and nationally significant event.

**Key Stage 2:**

This workshop can support the study of a significant historical event, people and places in their own locality, the study of events beyond living memory that are significant nationally or globally; understanding the connection between cultural, economic, military, political, religious and social history; the study of an aspect of history or a site dating from a period beyond 1066 that is significant in the locality; a study of an aspect or theme in British history that extends pupils' chronological knowledge beyond 1066 *for example: the changing power of monarchy using case studies, or a significant turning point in British history.*

**Key Stage 3:**

This workshop contributes to the study of the causes and events of the civil wars throughout Britain; a local history study for example a depth study linked to one of the core British areas of study listed; society, economy and culture across the period: e.g. work and leisure in town and country, religion and superstition in daily life.

**Cross curriculum links:**

**English** –spoken language skills; listen and respond appropriately to adults and their peers; ask relevant questions to extend their understanding and build vocabulary and knowledge; articulate and justify answers, arguments and opinions; maintain attention and participate actively in collaborative conversations, staying on topic and initiating and responding to comments; use spoken language to develop understanding through speculating, hypothesising, imagining and exploring ideas; participate in discussions,

presentations, performances and debates; consider and evaluate different viewpoints, attending to and building on the contributions of others.

**Science (Key Stage 2)** using observation to suggest answers to questions. Materials: distinguish between an object and the material from which it is made; identify and name a variety of everyday materials including wood, metal etc.; identify and compare the uses of a variety of everyday materials, including wood and metal.

### **Knowledge, Skills & Understanding**

This activity covers:

- Chronological understanding:
- Knowledge and understanding of events, people and changes in the past: Historical interpretation:
- History enquiry:
- Organisation and communication:

### **Thinking Skills**

The following thinking skills are also covered:

- **Information Processing:** Comparing/contrasting information; Identifying and analysing relationships.
- **Reasoning:** Giving reasons for opinions/actions; Inferring; Making deductions; Using precise language to reason.
- **Enquiry:** Asking questions; Drawing conclusions.
- **Creativity:** Applying imagination.

### **Key Vocabulary:**

Musketeer, Pikeman, Cuirassier, Dragoon;

Tooled, pike, points, pots, helmets, armour, breastplate, backplate, pistol, poleaxe, buffcoat, colours, drum, bandolier, Montero, English lobster pot, Baldrick, gunbelt, grenade, sash, Bill, blocks.

### **Learning Outcomes**

Children will be able to:

Identify the difference between different soldiers.

Identify the equipment of different soldiers and how they used their equipment.

Understand the weight of the equipment.

Understand the importance of learning how to use the equipment.

Understand the importance of colours and drums on the battlefield.

**Location of session =** The Commandery, Sidbury, Worcester

**Duration =** 45 minutes

**Cost =** £1.50 per pupil per session, minimum £4.50 charge

For further information please contact Learning Officer Jo Willis on [jwillis@worcestershire.gov.uk](mailto:jwillis@worcestershire.gov.uk) or telephone: 01905 361821