



// History // Geography

LAND OF THE FANNS

Landscape History Detectives

Educational Resource // Activity

From, Land of the Fanns Online Resource

Key Stage

This is an activity suitable for Key Stages 2 - 4.

How long will this take?

This activity will take approximately 30 minutes to an hour.

Equipment & Materials

- Pencils
- Clipboards and paper or exercise books
- Old maps or drawings of the site - *the site may have been able to provide you with these in advance, or you can download free historic Ordnance Survey maps from: <https://maps.nls.uk/os/>, alternatively Google images can often help.*

What do we do?

First activity - this could be done in the classroom

- Distribute a copy of the modern map, and a copy of the historic map/plan. You might want to have the children in groups.
- Explain to them how maps work – what the different symbols and markings mean, eg tree markings, field markers, water, buildings. Ask the children to look on their modern map and find trees, water, entrance. Repeat this exercise with the old map.
- Ask them to look at the maps and discuss what is different now from then.
- Regroup the children and discuss their conclusions.
- Ask why the maps are different. (eg time has passed so trees have grown – there will be new ones, bigger ones, and some will have gone); new owners might have changed things; part of the landscape might have been sold and built on perhaps with roads or buildings).
- Ask the children to look at the modern map and imagine what it will be like to walk around the landscape. Discuss. Repeat this with the old map.
- Discuss how looking at the landscape on the map gives a different impression from looking in real life (eg things aren't 3D, you don't get an easy sense of views or a sensory experience).

What do we do?

Second activity - this should be done on site

- Send the children into the landscape with both the modern and old map and ask them to find the features. They can use the modern map to navigate, but compare the real landscape with the one on the old map to see what's different and what's the same. Keep an eye out for whether there are any remnants of lost features (raised lumps where there were once trees, foundations of demolished houses, gate posts where a boundary once was).
- You might want to send the children in groups, or go as a whole. Remember to set out parameters of where they can and cannot go, and send an adult with each group if appropriate.
- Regroup and discuss findings.

NB If you have an old drawing of the site rather than a plan or map, you can do the same exercise but talk about artistic licence and how things may not have been exactly as they were drawn. Even old plans were sometimes for design ideas rather than to show what had actually been created.

NB You can find more map resources at:

<https://ordnancesurvey.co.uk/education/teacher-resources>