

Cardiff Castle

Medieval Medicine Workshop

Location

Your workshop will take place either in the Housekeeper's Room (Room 1) of the Education Centre or when possible, in the medieval Undercroft.

Description

Find out more about the blood-curdling techniques of medieval medicine from the Barber Surgeon; tales of the Black Death, treating battle wounds, setting bones and pulling teeth – not to mention the blood letting and the leeches!

A professional, DBS-checked costumed facilitator will lead this workshop.

Duration

The workshop will last for 75 minutes. Please note that a guided tour is not included in the workshop price but can be arranged at a small additional cost. If chosen, the tour will take approximately 50 minutes. Please see what is also included in your visit below.

Key Learning Outcomes

By the end of the session, your pupils will have:

- ◆ Learnt what options were available for medical care in the medieval period
- ◆ Learnt the difference between a physician and a barber surgeon along with the role of the barber surgeon
- ◆ Learnt about the Greek and Roman influences on the medieval medical practices (e.g. Hippocrates, Galen and the theory of the Four Humours)
- ◆ Learnt how a variety of ailments would have been treated and the belief that led them to be treated in that way
- ◆ Learnt about how leeches were used to treat wounds
- ◆ Learnt about surgical implements that were used at the time
- ◆ Learnt about the techniques used to perform some of the operations at the time (a mock operation will be demonstrated)
- ◆ Learnt the importance of religious beliefs in medicine during the medieval period.

Main Links to the National Curriculum

- ◆ **History - Key Stage 2**
 - **Age of the Princes (Wales)**
 - *The daily life of people living in the Tudor times (if Tudor Medicine selected instead of medieval)*
 - **A Study of an aspect or theme in British history that extends pupils' chronological knowledge beyond 1066 (England)**
- ◆ **History - Key Stage 3**
 - **How the coming of the Normans affected Wales and Britain between 1000 and 1500 (Wales)**
 - **The development of Church, state and society in Medieval Britain 1066-1509 (England)**
- ◆ **History Key Stage 4**
 - **Medicine Through Time**

Please enquire about the possibility of lengthening the workshop to include a section on Tudor Medicine including Pare and Vesalius, or changing it to Tudor Medicine, which some primary schools choose to do.

What Else is Included in Your Visit

- Workshop as detailed above
- Use of the Audio Guide that has been written especially for children
- Film show and access to areas of the Grounds including the Keep, the Battlements and Wartime Shelters
- A Visit to Firing Line – Museum of the Welsh Soldier (Military Museum in the Interpretation Centre). Please note: Firing Line is independently managed and any activities offered are not a part of Cardiff Castle's Education Service. Visits may not be possible on certain days, or may incur an additional charge

We usually have birds of prey on site during the week although we cannot guarantee this.