

Explore:

What does 'heritage'

mean to you?

Accessible Resource

This session should be an inspiring introductory session for you and your young people to explore heritage and what it means to them - adapted to cater for the needs of those in your group.

Intended outcomes:

- To increase young people's and group leaders' understanding of what heritage is and their relationship to it.
- To increase young people's sense of belonging to, and pride in, the community in which they live.
- To increase group leaders' skills and confidence delivering heritage projects and to make them more likely to deliver heritage projects in the future.

Notes for group leaders

Before you deliver the session

Think about making the content relevant, inspiring and accessible for your young people:

1. Consider the definition of heritage (below) and what it could mean to your young people.
2. Do some initial research on your local heritage. Are there local examples of:
 - Listed or important buildings or public spaces? [Search the list here \(Historic England\)](#)
 - Inspiring people who came from the community?
 - Traditional music, food, dance and celebrations?
 - Uniformed youth group local heritage (e.g. inspiring past group members from the area, or your unit/organisation's role in supporting a national historical event)?
3. Think about how you can make the above relevant to your young people's interests.
4. Review the resources on the Heritage Youth Partnership Hub.
5. Print/gather in a presentation some examples and photos of heritage that is local/relevant and would be exciting for your young people.

After you deliver the session

- **Did your young people show interest in a particular area of heritage for further activity?**
- **Complete the Expression of Interest form**
Let us know if you have delivered/would like to continue delivering heritage-themed activity and accessing our materials. We would love to talk to you about your group, your delivery and any ways that the Heritage Youth Partnership might be able to help you:
<https://forms.office.com/e/ZHibf0VDaF>

The Heritage Youth Partnership online hub is being updated regularly, and we will keep those who complete the Expression of Interest form updated on the latest additions to materials, resources and opportunities.

- **Reflect on how the session(s) went**
Please give us feedback on the online hub and resources – including what went well and what could be improved. You can complete a feedback form here:
<https://forms.office.com/e/bVvfBZgVjf>

Definition of heritage

Heritage can be described and understood in many ways, such as:

“Special objects, buildings, stories and traditions (things we do) that have been passed down from previous generations” or

“Things and traditions that are special to us and our communities, which should be celebrated and taken care of, so we don’t lose or forget them.”

Examples of heritage:

There is heritage all around us, which you might not have thought about...



You could look at:

The **heritage of your local area**: houses, schools, street names and signs, parks, hills and forests, industry and trade, cinemas, memorials and statues, cemeteries, religious buildings, concert halls, village halls, community centres, museums, swimming pools, football pitches.

The **cultural heritage** of your community and young people: food, music, dance, traditional practices (family meals, going to watch football).

The **heritage of your group**: the traditions of the group, the uniform, the building, previous members.

Activity ideas

These could be in small or large groups, pairs or working 1:1 with an adult.

- ◆ **Complete a heritage walk around your community.** Look at a building, place or thing, which your young people might find inspiring/important in their local area.
- ◆ **Look at photos of your local area from the past.** Use Historic England's [Aerial Photo Explorer](#). How has the area changed? What does this mean to you?
- ◆ **Taste some local food.** Can you learn more about it or how to cook it?
- ◆ **Watch videos/a performance of dancing** from a culture within your community.
- ◆ **Listen to music** from a local musician or of local cultural significance.
- ◆ **Learn about someone significant who came from nearby/your unit.**
- ◆ **Create something (drawing, story, poem, dance, etc.)** which responds to a piece of heritage you have seen/discussed.
- ◆ **Design your heritage flag/shield,** to clearly show local or further afield heritage which is special for you or your unit.
- ◆ **How do we, or could we, remember special people or things?** Draw or make something to remember someone/something special.

Questions for discussion

These could be in small or large groups, pairs or working 1:1 with an adult.

- **What things or traditions (things we do) are special to you, that we should celebrate and take care of? Why are they special to you?**
- **What does heritage mean to you?**
- **Which examples/parts of heritage would you be interested to learn more about?**
- **How could we remember special people, places, events or things?**