THE NATIONAL LIDO OF WALES, LIDO PONTY

LIDO LEARNING
EDUCATIONAL PACK

RHONDDA CYNON TAF

TREE TRUNKS
TEACHER'S PACK

heritage treftadaeth
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TREE TRUNKS
INTRODUCTION

KEYSTAGE 2

The aim of this pack is to help teachers approach a self led visit to the National Lido of Wales, Lido Ponty, in a creative, confident and imaginative way. The activity suggestions are flexible and we encourage teachers to select and adapt the material to ensure that it meets topic and year group needs.

Booking a visit

To book your free visit, please follow these simple steps:

- Book your visit at least five working days in advance.
- Telephone on **0300 004 0000** to check the availability for the date on which you would like to visit.
- Once you have agreed a date and time with the National Lido of Wales, Lido Ponty, complete and return the online booking form that will be emailed to you.

Activities are timed to last approximately ninety minutes and may be preceded or followed by a key skills session and a swim (in summer term only) or a visit to our adventure playground, Lido Play, which is open all year round.

Health and Safety

Teachers and group leaders are responsible for carrying out risk assessments prior to the visit, in accordance with guidance issued by local education authorities. The learning pages on the National Lido of Wales, Lido Ponty website offer specific advice for planning your visit and site information is available on request.

The National Lido of Wales, Lido Ponty and the Curriculum

For each activity we have included a curriculum map to support teachers' planning. The map highlights how the activities in this pack are relevant to learning outcomes in Key Stage 2 and how they link to the National Curriculum for Wales. The activity programme has been designed with Key Stage 2 in mind, but you will find content relevant to Key Stage 1 and the Foundation Phase, and activities are adaptable.

Before your visit

- Discuss what the children expect to find when they get to the National Lido of Wales, Lido Ponty.
- Ask the children if any of them have been to the National Lido of Wales, Lido Ponty before, and if so, what did they do there?
- Make a tally chart of each activity and show the children how to create a bar chart using the information.

YOU WILL NEED TO BRING

Pencils or felt tip pens

Tracing Paper

Collecting bags / pots

LIDO PONTY

LIDO LEARNING
EDUCATIONAL PACK

TREE TRUNKS
INFORMATION FOR TEACHERS

KEYSTAGE 2

The National Lido of Wales, Lido Ponty, is the only operational open air swimming pool remaining in Wales. Together with Ynysangharad War Memorial Park, the National Lido of Wales, Lido Ponty is an iconic example of interwar municipal provision for public recreation.

A visit will support the development of historical skills and enquiry at all key stages.

History

The National Lido of Wales, Lido Ponty originally opened on 30 July 1927. It was the first purpose-built swimming pool in Pontypridd and was designed by W. E. Lowe. Run by Pontypridd Urban District Council, it was largely financed by the Miner's Welfare Fund. This Fund was formed by a tax on the profits of the coal industry which was then put to use improving the social and educational opportunities of mining communities.

Before the Lido was built, people swam and bathed in the nearby rivers, such as the Taff or the Rhondda, or in the Glamorganshire Canal but these were heavily polluted by industry and not a safe environment for people to swim in. In fact, several young people died because of swimming in dirty rivers and demand grew for purpose built swimming pools instead.

After the Second World War, the National Lido of Wales, Lido Ponty was used by Jenny James when she was training for her cross-channel swims. On 16 August 1951, she swam from France to England in a time of 13 hours, 55 minutes the first Welsh person ever to do so.

In 2015, the newly restored Lido reopened. Many original features were rescued, including the turnstiles and ticket office.

Looking at the Lido

The Lido was originally built in an arts and crafts style. This can be seen in the oldest parts of the building near the front entrance. Additions in the 1930s adopted an art deco style, which can be seen in the ticket office and store room doors, for instance. Other features include the crenellated outer wall and the red roof tiles that convey a Mediterranean look. The tiles were inspired by the Romans and reflected the craze in the mid 1920s for Roman history that followed the discoveries at Caerleon.

The entrance hall would still be fairly familiar to the original visitors. At first, there were two doors onto pool side, with eager swimmers entering through the turnstiles. These were made in Manchester and Salford in the north of England. To the left hand side, as you enter, would have been the manager's office. In those days he was called the baths attendant.

The changing boxes that run along the outside of the pool were an original feature and are similar to changing boxes that you still find at the beach. When the Lido first opened, you could even hire towels and woollen bathing costumes! These were washed at the Lido's own laundry.

The original size of the pool is marked by the white line. At nearly fifty metres long and thirty five metres wide, the National Lido of Wales, Lido Ponty was the largest open air swimming pool in the South Wales Coalfield.

Have you been to the Roman baths at Caerleon? How do they compare?

Photograph stored in the resource kit at the Lido.

LIDO LEARNING
EDUCATIONAL PACK

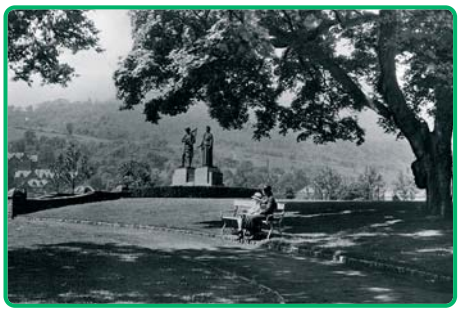
TREE TRUNKS
INFORMATION FOR TEACHERS

KEYSTAGE 2

Ynysangharad War Memorial Park is a Grade II listed public park located in the centre of Pontypridd, and was laid out primarily between 1923 and 1930. A visit will support the development of historical skills, environmental awareness, maths and oracy skills, and enquiry at all key stages.

History

Ynysangharad War Memorial Park was originally opened on 6 August 1923 by Viscount Allenby. It is Pontypridd's permanent war memorial, initially to the fallen in the First World War, but now contains memorials to those who have lost their lives in both world wars and the more recent Falklands conflict. It was originally funded by means of public subscription and by substantial grants from the Miner's Welfare Fund.



As befits a public park of the 1920s, there is a mixture of sporting and recreational elements, both of which reflect historic uses, and the park is connected to the National Cycle Network. The oldest section of the park is the cricket field which was first used by Pontypridd Cricket Club in 1873. The ground was remodelled in the 1920s and the field as it is now dates to 1924. County cricket was played here for the first time in 1926, and international cricket in 1929. The first overseas side to play here were South Africa. Before Ynysangharad War Memorial Park opened, the only available public recreational spaces in Pontypridd were located on the Common, on Berw Road and Lewistown Park in Treforest. None of them contained or could contain the range of recreational facilities that were eventually made available at Ynysangharad War Memorial Park.

Looking at the Park

Starting at the front gates on Bridge Street, you will notice two carved stones, these are the emblems of (on the left) Pontypridd Urban District Council and (on the right) Taff Ely Borough Council.

In front of you as you enter the park gates is the 'main avenue' which leads towards the adventure playground, Lido Play, and the National Lido of Wales, Lido Ponty. Lido Play sits on the site of the park's original paddling pool which opened in 1923. If you turn to the left when you enter the park, this will lead you to the 'middle avenue' which takes visitors to the bandstand, war memorials, and the statue of the muses sculpted by William Goscombe John and erected in 1930. It commemorates Evan James and James James, the authors of the Welsh National Anthem, Hen Wlad Fy Nhadau (Land of My Fathers). The third avenue leads to the sports fields.

In many respects, Ynysangharad War Memorial Park would still be familiar to those who first used it in the 1920s. There is one significant exception, however, which is Ynysangharad House. This was once the home of Gordon Lenox, the manager of the Brown Lenox Chainworks, but was used by Pontypridd Urban District Council for many years as a clinic. It was demolished in the 1970s when the A470 was built. The memorial fountain near Lido Play recognises the importance of the Lenox family to Pontypridd.

TREE TRUNKS
ACTIVITY ONE PARK

KEYSTAGE 2

CURRICULUM MAP

- **Mathematics** **Skills:** Solving mathematical problems; developing numerical reasoning. communicating mathematically **Range:** Measurements
- **Geography** **Skills:** Locating places, environments, patterns; investigating **Range:** Carrying out fieldwork.

Other Curriculum Links English: Oracy
Art and Design: Understanding and investigating.

SCAVENGER HUNT

Ynysangharad War Memorial Park is home to lots of different trees, flowers and mini beasts. How many different types can you find on a walk around the park?

Gather at an appropriate position in the park and form a circle (sitting or standing). Ask the children to look around and describe what they see. Explain that you are going to explore the park and find examples of the natural world. Divide into small groups (as necessary) and give each group a collecting bag. On their journey, the groups will be looking for various examples of the natural environment in the park. These might include:

- Something **prickly**
- Something **smooth**
- Something **hard**
- Something **waxy**
- Something **changing colour**

Remember to collect responsibly!

- Collect from the floor wherever possible and do not pull leaves and branches off trees and branches or pick flowers.
- Do not pick berries or mushrooms as they may be poisonous.

At the end of the scavenger hunt, return to the meeting spot and share your treasures with the other groups. Encourage the children to think about how they can categorise their finds, e.g. by shape or colour.

MINI BEASTS

As you walk around Ynysangharad War Memorial Park, you will encounter mini beasts, especially if you turn over stones in some of the shaded areas or near the river.

Encourage children to suggest where to go to look for mini beasts. These are some of the mini beasts you are likely to find:

- Spider
- Woodlouse
- Worm
- Snail
- Slug
- Ant
- Caterpillar
- Butterfly
- Beetle
- Ladybird
- Fly
- Midge
- Dragonfly

Before you look for mini beasts, it is important to decide whether you are going to observe and count, ticking the ones you find on a score card or tally sheet, and making a note of their different features, or draw them. You can use a collecting pot, such as a yoghurt pot, to temporarily house the mini beast as you study it.

Don't forget to put it back in the same place!

TREE TRUNKS
ACTIVITY TWO PARK

CURRICULUM MAP

- **Mathematics** **Skills:** Solving mathematical problems; developing numerical reasoning; communicating mathematically **Range:** Measurements
- **Geography** **Skills:** Locating places, environments, patterns; investigating **Range:** Carrying out fieldwork.

Other Curriculum Links English: Oracy
Art and Design: Understanding and investigating.

SHAPES AND PATTERNS

If you have completed a scavenger hunt, you can use the different items you have collected to begin your discussion of the different shapes and sizes of the natural world. If you have not completed a scavenger hunt, find an appropriate location in the park and use the items close by.

Ask the children to describe the different shapes of the leaves and the colours that they can see. You can record these on a tally chart.

Do the children recognise the different types of trees:

- **Coniferous trees** with cones and needles, mostly evergreen
- **Broadleaf trees** with broad leaves, often deciduous
- **Deciduous trees** that lose their leaves in the autumn
- **Evergreen trees** that keep their leaves in the autumn

There are exceptions, such as holly, which is an evergreen but not a conifer. Are there any of these in the park?

To record the different tree types that you see, you can take leaf rubbings using crayons and paper. What about taking a photograph using a camera? The veins of the leaf should face you. You could also collect your leaves and, in the classroom, glue them to paper or paper plates and make an identification gallery.

The natural world is full of different shapes and patterns. Think about a butterfly's wings, or a bird's feathers, or the swirls of a snail's shell, or the sequenced pattern of a pine cone.

Divide into groups (as necessary) and go for a short walk around Ynysangharad War Memorial Park looking for, and at, objects with different shapes and patterns.

- What can you find? • Are the objects symmetrical? • What colours are they?
- Do you think they can change colour? • If they can, when would they change colour and why?

We can take inspiration from the shapes and patterns that we see in the park to make pictures of our own.

On your walk gather together some examples of what you find and put them in your collecting bag, you will use these to create your picture. Work in your groups to design your pattern. It can be symmetrical or asymmetrical, but remember to think about the shapes and patterns you have seen in the park.

- How might you replicate them using the materials you've collected?

You can take a photograph of your picture, or you could make your artwork in the classroom and glue the patterns to paper.

Digital Extensions

- Use a tablet device or digital camera to take photographs of interesting shapes and l eaves that you find in the park.
- Use the computer to create digital artwork based on what you have discovered in the park.
- Depending on the seasons, use the computer to investigate the lifecycle of trees and create a simple presentation to show the rest of the class how different types of trees change each season.

TREE TRUNKS
ACTIVITY THREE PARK

CURRICULUM MAP

- **Mathematics** **Skills:** Solving mathematical problems; developing numerical reasoning; communicating mathematically **Range:** Measurements
- **Geography** **Skills:** Locating places, environments, patterns; investigating **Range:** Carrying out fieldwork.

Other Curriculum Links English: Oracy

MEASURING A TREE

There are lots of tall trees in Ynysangharad War Memorial Park. But how can we measure them without climbing all the way to the top?

Invite the children to guess how you can measure without climbing. Ask them to estimate how tall the tree is.

To measure the height of a tree, we can use the basic principles of trigonometry remember this will only be an estimate. Work in pairs or small groups:

1. Person one stands against the tree with their back to the trunk.
2. Person two stands facing person one and moves back a distance.
3. Person two closes one eye and holds a pencil vertically at arm's length so that the top of the pencil is level with the top of the tree.
4. Person two stays in the same place, but turns their hand so that the pencil is horizontal. Keep your thumb level with the base of the tree.
5. Person one walks so that they appear to be walking along the pencil. When they reach the end, they should stop.
6. Using a tape measure, measure the distance between the tree and person one, this will be approximately the height of the tree.

   Don't forget to swap over and practice a few times!

This method can be used to measure other tall objects. Have a go at measuring the height of the National Lido of Wales, Lido Ponty!

ESTIMATING HOW OLD A TREE IS

To tell how old a tree was, you can count the number of rings on the inside of the trunk. Each ring marks one year – 'good' years have wider rings than 'bad' ones.

Find a spot in the park where there is a felled tree or a tree stump and count the rings.

How old was the tree that you looked at?
But what if the tree has not been cut down?

We do not want to cut down every tree in the park to find out how old they are. Fortunately there is a way of calculating the age of a tree without chopping it down.

1. Divide into groups (as necessary) and find a tree (perhaps one whose height you measured earlier).
2. Estimate how old it might be.
3. Use a measuring tape and measure 1.5 metres up the trunk. Someone will need to mark the spot perhaps by putting their finger on it.
4. Measure the circumference of the tree at this point using the measuring tape and record the number.
5. Using a calculator, or mental arithmetic if appropriate, divide the circumference measurement by 2.5. This will give an approximate age of the tree.
6. Compare this with the group's estimates.

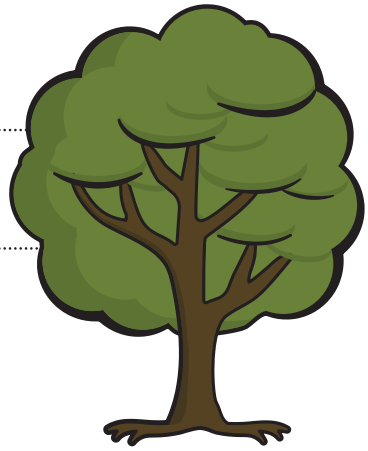
Compare the age of your tree with one chosen by another group and discuss whether the trees in the park might all be the same age. Why would they have been planted at that time?

Note to teachers:

Ask the children if they know about tree rings and guide them through observation and differentiation. Eventually they should be able to recognise young trees, middle-aged trees, and mature trees, from their relative sizes. Invite comparisons.

TREE TRUNKS
MEASURING TREES

1. Choose a tree
2. Do you know what tree it is?



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3. Estimate how old it is:

.....

4. Use this method to measure how old the tree is...
   - Measure 1.5 metres up the trunk and mark the spot.
   - Measure the circumference (all the way around)
   - Write down the circumference in cm:
   - Use a calculator to divide the number of cm by 2.5
   - Write down your answer, this gives you an approximate age for the tree.

.....

5. What was the difference between your guess and your measurement?

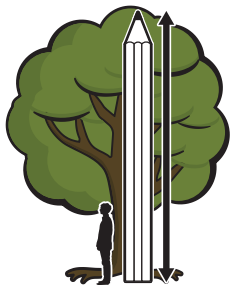
.....

My Tree is [ ] Years Old.

6. Estimate how tall it is.

.....

7. Use this method to measure how tall the tree is...
   - Person one stand with their back to the trunk.
   - Person two face their partner and walk back a distance.
   - Person two holds a pencil vertically at arm's length so that the point is in line with the top of the tree.
   - Person two turns their hand to the horizontal position, keeping their thumb in line with the base of the tree.
   - Person one walks away from the tree to the side, as though they are walking along the pencil. Stop when they reach the end of the pencil.
   - Measure the distance from the tree to person one, this is approximately the height of the tree.
   - Write down your answer, this gives you an approximate height for the tree.



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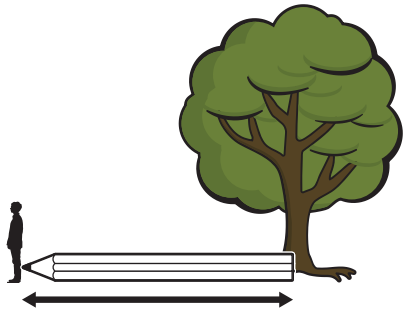
8. What was the difference between your guess and your measurement?



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My Tree is[ ] Tall.