Warley Woods’ BIG RED BOOK PROJECT

By Abbey Junior School in collaboration with The Gardens Trust & Warley Woods Community Trust

We are inviting all local businesses and organizations to support our one-year project at Warley Woods.

The purpose of the BIG RED BOOK is to celebrate and promote Warley Woods as a unique and important place for all. The book will be a central part of the project and will be distributed to a wide audience.

How to get involved:
- You can be a part of the project by providing materials, such as photographs, drawings, or other visual elements.
- You can also contribute financially, either by sponsoring the project in full or by providing smaller donations.
- Additionally, you can help by spreading the word about the project and encouraging others to get involved.

To find out more and to express your interest (eg. sponsorship), please contact Caroline Carter, Project Manager, at the Gardens Trust. Alternatively, you can call us on 01799 371372.
Session 1
September ’18

Mapping & Understanding the Landscape
I love this image – and not they weren’t running away because someone said ‘Today we are going to learn about an historic landscape’ – but eagerly running towards their next ‘station’ to learn about a different element of garden history...!
The children were split into groups of 30 and carouselled around the park. David’s station was at the site of the former Abbey. He used photos from the red book and archive to discuss what you might think about designing a garden. I was based at the site of the former Doric Temple and we made our own garden architectural designs using lego, Gary was in the woods leading a tree measuring activity. Every child had their sketch book and spent time drawing a view.
I set a tough challenge for one of the groups at the end – to see how much they had learnt. In pairs the children had to come up with three questions they would ask each other. Here is one conversation...

1. Do you want me to build a tree house?
2. Is it okay to cut down some trees, but I will plant more trees?
3. What style are you looking for in the land?

1. How much will it cost?
2. How good are you from 1-10?
3. How many designs have you done?
And did they learn? At the end of the afternoon I asked them to write down one thing they had learnt that they would share with their family. My favourites include “I learnt that Humphry repton died poor although he designed the abbey” and that “some of the beech trees have been there over 200 years” and “There once was a farm”
I also like these comments as you can see what they are getting at, even though on the surface they make you laugh... “I learnt that Samuel Galton wanted to be a farmer, but Humphry told him not too” and “I learnt that Humphry repton didn’t really do much”.

Our second workshop was at the local community archives service where we introduced research skills – for most this was their first time in the archives. The day was supported by the fab Kate Slade from WW CT and Neil McClean, a gardens trust volunteer.
And then we went into the school, along with one year 6 mum and two grandparents. We took loads of photos from the archive, and 10 maps dating back to 1792 to present day and set up a timeline across the hall, onto which the children pegged the photos in the right order. It was great fun and the teacher were amazed how well the children engaged!
We then went into the classroom and tasked the children with writing diary entries using resource material from the archive and based on one of five scenarios; including

The day we played in the pond and The day we went to the doric temple
The day that Hubert Galton moved into Warley Hall – which he called ‘The Abbey’.

I just wanted to read an extract of a couple to end..

The day that Hubert Galton moved into Warley Hall – which he called ‘The Abbey’

“Today I moved into my brand new manor house – The Abbey – I am thrilled on how well my garden was designed by Humphry Repton, even though he didn’t even get his hands dirty”
Dated March 1795 – a very special event for Samuel Galton Junior

Dear Diary,

I am overjoyed. Ecstatic even. Today, the postman came knocking on my door. Do you know what he had? My Repton Red Book! I can’t believe I have been delayed one whole year, and now, on a simple, regular day, I am presented with this beauty. The Repton Red Book contains maps and paintings of the estate. The paintings were exquisite, the maps simply first-class!”
Session 3
November ‘18

Exploring & Understanding Significance
HERITAGE VALUE

• Evidential value
  • Historical value
    – Illustrative
    – Associative
• Aesthetic value
  – Design
  – Fortuitous
• Communal value
  – Commemorative and symbolic
  – Social
  – Spiritual
• Blend of any of these = Significance
In Warley Woods you can still see trees that survive from when Humphry Repton designed it.

Every ten years 1,000 of the trees are felled for our safety assessment.

Every ten years, 1 tonne of dog poo is spread away from the tree crown.

Every March, 1 tonne of dog poo is spread away away from the tree crown.

Trees which were more than 10 years old or had been damaged were removed.

An area of 1m x 1m is marked out on the floor with a line.

World War II started on Sep 1, 1939.

An area of 1m x 1m is marked out on the floor with a line.

Warley Woods is 1,000 years old. More than 4,700 trees are in it.

An area of 1m x 1m is marked out on the floor with a line.
My Small Bag

Listen back. I heard the phone ring. Now connect the phone...

Marky flaps in 10 and 5. Teeth of bisness are in the top of bisness.

Merry merry had a herd of cows. The herd of cows...

Reading night is the first night of a deeper...
Session 4
December ‘18

The REPTON Showcase!
c. 90 campaign posters
Ben 6M

I woke up more excited than ever before! The house is AMAZING! The ride was quite smooth surprisingly. Cotton was pleased everyone was there. If I could use 3 words to describe the house, it would be: large and colourful. Well I think that's all I have to say so by.

Wednesday 18th October 1945

Dear Diary,

Today my mum and dad took a trip with some other women and I was sent to the school to visit. I phoned my Uncle who lives in Ormskirk, Lancashire and he invited me to his house for a cup of tea. I had a great time there. Thank you for listening.

Yours sincerely,

Abbe

Abbe

The Abbey

Abbe

c. 90 diary entries inspired by historical events
c. 90 Repton-inspired water colour paintings
183 more adults saw the exhibition
Almost 300 people learnt about Humphry Repton.
Be Flexible

• Keep momentum going
• Be prepared to change your ideas
• Need opportunities to build relationships to
• engage families of school community
The training model works for kids too!

Step 1: Understanding
Step 2: Appreciating
Step 3: Articulating
Step 4: Communicating
Listen to the teacher!
Evaluate methods and impact as you go along
I have a lot about my Woes Moods