



UPPER Key Stage 2 - HISTORY

Lesson title – *What's changed: the Kitchen Garden at Chiswick House*

Time of year – all year

Curriculum topic – Continuity and change

Focus of learning objectives

Significant historical events, people and places in the locality with reference to the Kitchen Garden at Chiswick House – what it was used for, who used it and how.

Curriculum objectives

To understand historical concepts such as continuity and change, cause and consequence, similarity, difference, and significance, and use them to make connections, draw contrasts, analyses of trends, frame historically valid questions and create own structured accounts, including written narratives and analyses.

Key vocabulary

Continuity, consequence, cause and effect, timeline

Additional Curriculum links

Art and design

Resources required

What we will provide:

- In **Self-led Teaching Resource – Introduction to the Kitchen Garden**
 - Definition of Kitchen Garden
 - History of Kitchen Gardens and Chiswick House Kitchen Garden in timeline.

What you should bring: Writing and drawing materials, clip boards.

Preparation required

- Read the **Self-led Teaching Resource – Introduction to the Kitchen Garden**

Other relevant information

There are 2 very old mulberry trees at Chiswick House and Garden. One in the Kitchen Garden. For information about the history of mulberry trees in London see <https://www.moruslondinium.org/> There is an entry for the Chiswick Mulberry trees.

Introduction to activities

20 minutes

- Explore the garden looking at the structures in the garden.



- Discuss what were they used for? Do some of them look older than others? Note the wall around the outside of the garden with gates that lock.

Activities in the Kitchen Garden

60 minutes

Activity 1 Sketch map

- Draw a sketch of the Kitchen Garden and mark on the notable features such as the wall and gates, plants growing against the walls, the rectangular beds, the carriage shed with cobbles. Mark which features are new, and which are older – this could be done using a key.

Activity 2 Mulberry tree

- Find the mulberry tree in the garden which may date to c1682 and include it in your sketch. Discuss what the tree might have seen over the years since it was planted.

Activity 3 Feeding the household – what’s on the menu

- Discuss the purpose of the Kitchen Garden to supply food to a large household. Who would have maintained the garden, picked the food and cooked it? Who would have eaten it?
- Look at the fruit/vegetables in the garden and list them. What would they have drunk?

Extension Activity

10 minutes

- Discuss the role of mulberries in the silk industry and the tradition of planting trees in London. (There is information
- What could silk be used for in a grand house like Chiswick House.

Health and Wellbeing focus

30 minutes

- The Kitchen Garden was originally part of a landscaped garden designed for pleasure and used by the inhabitants of the house for walking exercise and to delight senses.
- Go for a walk and identify the things in the garden that “delight your senses.”
- Think of each of your senses and see if you can identify something for each of them.
- Find somewhere quiet to sit and watch the wildlife in the garden.
- Discuss how you feel after spending time in the garden – relaxed and at peace or stressed and worried.
- What impact does walking have on your wellbeing?

Food growing focus

15 minutes

- Discuss food groups and why fruit and vegetables are an important component in a healthy diet. Discuss the difference between processed foods and raw foods.
- If you would like to pick fruit for your class to taste please ask the learning team in advance what you can pick to try on the day of your visit. You are welcome to collect any fallen fruit for your use.

Extension activity at school

- Use your lists of fruit and vegetables to make up a menu for a Georgian feast that the cook would have prepared in the kitchen using produce from the garden.
- Draw a picture of the feast and write some paragraphs about who would have attended, what they would have worn (silk) and what entertainments there might have been for the guests.



CHISWICK HOUSE
& GARDENS TRUST