

Take One... Totem Pole

Key Stage 1 & 2

National Curriculum area:

English, Geography, Art,

Cross-curricular

Length of session: 75 minutes

Maximum group size: 32



Session Outline

In this Creative Take One session pupils are inspired to look closely at the totem pole and use it as a springboard for imaginative and critical thinking.

Activity 1 Questioning and Handling

Pupils look at the totem pole and handle objects made by the Haida people to develop understanding of their skills, beliefs, values and environment.

Activity 2 Museum Search

In small groups pupils find Haida objects round the Museum to develop understanding of Haida life.

Activity 3 Storytelling

Pupils find out more about Haida culture as they hear a traditional story about raven and create their own tricky tale.

Learning Outcomes

- Find out about the totem pole and where it was made in Haida Gwaii, a group of islands off the North West Coast of Canada
- Understand how looking at one object closely can tell us about the lives of the Haida people who made it
- Appreciate the design and stories carved on the totem pole

Pre visit activities

Find Haida Gwaii on a map and research what the environment is like.

Research Haida potlatches.

Explore pattern, symmetry and colour in Haida art.

Post visit activities

Haida crests are owned by particular families and tell their family history. What could be the symbols for your family's history and their achievements?

Find out about Haida stories and the animals which feature in them www.youtube.com/user/haidawood

Plan a feast to strengthen your community and share your own family's special foods.



For further details and how to book visit:

www.prm.ox.ac.uk/primary-schools