

## See My Garden Grow



*Duration: 1 ½ hours approx. – max group size 30*  
National Curriculum – **Key Stage 1 / 2**  
Available: April - September

### **The Visit Aims**

- To arouse pupils awareness and curiosity about gardens and the environment of a historical garden.
- To form an understanding of the life cycle of plants from a seed to flower, back to seed and the changes in plants over the seasons.
- To encourage pupils to examine and interpret the environment through a variety of perspectives i.e. aesthetic, physical, biological etc.
- To look at the different types of plants grown (flowers, fruits, herbs and vegetables) and their place in the garden.
- To identify parts of plants, discuss their functions and their use.
- To give children first hand experience of investigating the variety of plant seeds and pods and to have the opportunity to sow their very own plant seed.

### **The Visit**

A guided tour of the garden will inform the children about the different types of plants grown. Flowers, herbs, soft fruits, fruit trees and vegetables will be looked at.

The requirements that plants need to grow successfully – sun, soil, space and water – will be discussed.

Parts of plants will be identified and named and some differences and similarities looked at between different plant groups.

The bee-hives may be observed from a distance and the role of the bee and other insects in the garden explained.

**Practical activities** (sowing seeds). To demonstrate how plants are cultivated from seed. The children will have the opportunity to sow seeds in pots. The activity is supervised by the Ranger and an explanation given to the method used and type of seed planted.

*Gloves are available for the simple seed planting activity.  
Cleansing anti-bacterial gel available.*

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## **Background Information**

Croxteth Hall was the former home of the Earls of Sefton. After the death of the last Earl in 1972 the Hall and its estate was bequeathed to the City of Liverpool. The Country Park now consists of 215 hectares of gardens, open parkland, pasture and woodland. The Victorian Walled Garden was built around the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> century (circa 1850) and occupies two acres of ground (0.8 hectares).

The purpose of the garden was to produce an abundant supply of fresh fruit, vegetables and cut flowers for the Hall and the Head Gardener was expected to produce crops all the year round.

## **Visit Resources**

- The Victorian Walled Garden Colour Guide
- Each child will have the opportunity to sow a seed as part of the session.

## **Visit Notes**

**Supervision** - For every visit it is necessary to have sufficient adults with your group to comply with your LEA outdoor guidelines.

**Risk Assessments** - are available for all guided visits.

**Timing** - Most visits last for approx 1.5 hours. Please refer to the notes provided for your visit for times and starting points. We suggest you arrive 15 minutes in advance of your visit to allow for parking, payment, toilet trips, etc

**Toilets** - are in the courtyard by the Café.

**Parking** - The main entrance and coach park is off Muirhead Avenue East. The coach park is about 300m from the Hall. You may be advised to park near the Hall only with prior arrangement.

**Charge** - £3.80 per child, (minimum charge £95.00 per group)

**Payment** - Please make payment on the day of the visit at the gift shop at the front of the Hall. Please make payment to **Croxteth Hall & Country Park**.

**Clothing** - Please ensure students wear outdoor clothing and footwear appropriate for the weather and time of year.

**Further Information** about this and other visits are detailed on our 'Learning Opportunities' website [www.croxteth.co.uk/education](http://www.croxteth.co.uk/education)

**Customer Feedback Form** - please fill in and return our feedback survey sheets- we welcome evaluation and constructive comments on your visit.

**Liverpool City Council Parks & Greenspaces**

**Ranger Interpretation Service, Croxteth Hall & Country Park, Croxteth Hall Lane,  
Liverpool L12 OHB**

**Tel 0151 233 6910 (Gen Office), 0151 233 6912/6915 (RIS Team) fax 0151 233 6906**