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opportunities for schools 2011-2012

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turn learning into an adventure!

The highlight of a visit to Big Pit is the tour 90 metres underground with a former miner who'll give you a first-hand account of life in the pit. You can also find out much more about strikes, disasters and mining communities by exploring the colliery buildings and displays above ground.

- ◆ Explore the surface stables and blacksmith's shop.
- ◆ Visit the winding engine house which is still in use today.
- ◆ Learn about modern mining techniques in the mining galleries.
- ◆ Investigate the pithead baths and the stories of the people who worked in the industry.

We have an exciting programme of visits and events designed with a school's needs in mind. Read on to find out how you can now combine your underground tour or surface visit with one of our facilitated sessions.



Sandford Award for excellence in heritage education



Quality Badge Awarded by the Council for Learning Outside the Classroom



Servants of the Empire

(KS1 & 2)

What was life like for the thousands of children in Victorian Britain who

went out to work? Draw on a variety of sources of evidence to find out more about the lives of working children, including objects from our collections.

Duration: 50 minutes (10-minute introduction, 30 minutes exploring the museum exhibitions and objects, 10 minute feedback session)

Numbers: max 35 per group

Maggie Morgan

(KS2)

Tuesdays only

Visit old Maggie in her home, and listen as she recounts tales of her childhood as



a door-girl underground and life as the wife of a collier in the nineteenth century. Maggie is happy to answer questions about living and working conditions in the early days of mining.

Duration: 40 minutes

Numbers: max 35 per group

From tip to treasure

(KS1 & 2)

Visit Coity Tip, the former spoil heap for Big Pit, now an area rich with wildlife. Find out about species and habitats at the tip and pond, and go minibeast hunting/pond dipping.

Duration: 10-minute walk from Big Pit: 1 hour session

Numbers: max 30 per group

Outdoor clothing and footwear should be worn for this session.



Please telephone (01495) 790311 for further details and available dates for the facilitated sessions.

For teachers

Teachers' days

We offer a range of professional development opportunities and familiarization days to help you get the most out of your visit. Please contact the Learning Officer for details on (01495) 796413.

Resources

Pickets, Police and Politics

A learning resource for secondary schools about the 1984-5 Miner's Strike. This includes oral testimony and images at

www.museumwales.ac.uk/media/9/7/5/3/strike-en.pdf.



Children of the Revolution

Children of the Revolution is our interactive learning resource created in partnership with Newport LEA to increase understanding of children's living and working conditions in the nineteenth century. It includes spreadsheet activities, mapping exercises, virtual tours and downloadable sheets at www.museumwales.ac.uk/en/2158.

Coity Tip

Resources to support a school visit to Coity Tip. This former colliery spoil heap is now a miniature reserve and ideal for out of classroom learning – especially science and geography. See website for further details at www.museumwales.ac.uk/en/learning/bigpit.



For secondary schools

For further details on a range of talks and sessions tailored to your needs, call the Learning Officer on (01495) 796413.

making a booking

Please book to ensure that you get the most out of your visit to Big Pit.
Contact us on **(01495) 790 311**.

Underground tours run daily between 10am and 3.30pm. Last bookable tour is 3pm.
The underground tour is not available during some dates in January due to maintenance work.
Please phone or see website for further details at www.museumwales.ac.uk/en/bigpit.

Remember there is a gift shop, coffee shop and canteen at the Museum, which groups are welcome to use.

We will send out a confirmation form when your booking has been made. You will find a *Planning Your Visit* guide and health and safety information to help you complete a risk assessment for your visit at www.museumwales.ac.uk/en/learning/bigpit.

Finding us

Big Pit: National Coal Museum, Blaenafon, Torfaen, NP4 9XP



**For a large print version of this leaflet,
call (029) 2057 3149.**