

School visits 2024 & 2025

THE **STORY** MUSEUM



Exploring Narnia within the Enchanted Library

We offer a range of tailored sessions from Nursery to Year 13, covering each Key Stage

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Curriculum links include:

- Literacy
- English Literature
- PSHE
- Spiritual, moral, social & cultural development
- Local and world history
- Human and physical geography

"It was the most magical and wonderful day. Our children had the best time and the Year 4 team left so inspired for our next term of learning... The session leader was absolutely brilliant and the children loved her. She kept them engaged all day, they were so motivated and their imaginations were set on fire."

Deputy Head Teacher, March 2023

Get in touch with our Learning Team
(learning@storymuseum.org.uk / 01865 790050) to arrange your school trip and secure your session.



Stories in the Whispering Wood

OPTION 1: SMALL WORLDS

A story session held in The Story Museum's Small Worlds gallery. Students enter our Small Worlds gallery for stories on our big bed and in our space-themed Night Safe. They create their own mini story landscapes and imagine the episodes that could unfold within their enchanting new world.

NURSERY: STORY PIC 'N' MIX

Suitable for: Nursery, EYFS and Year 1

Outcome: speaking and listening presentation, depending on the Small Worlds session selected

Length of session: 2 hours

Session times: 10:00 – 12:00 or 12:30-14:30

Cost: £200+VAT per class of up to 35 students

Students enter our Small Worlds gallery to explore the range of worlds and activities and choose their favourites. The session includes a mixture of structured oral story time and songs, as well as free play in the different environments, craft and messy play.

Outcome: a craft or learned song or story

NURSERY, RECEPTION & YEAR 1: STORY PATCHWORK

Students enter our Small Worlds gallery for a story in our Elmer themed story-zone. Working in small groups they work together to create their own elephant character before taking their elephants on a parade around the space in celebration of all the things that make us unique.

Outcome: Developing positive attitudes, Verbal presentation and Communication skills

EYFS & YEAR 1: STORY PLAY

Students enter our Small Worlds gallery for stories on our big bed and in our magical night safe. They create their own mini story landscapes and imagine the episodes that could unfold within their enchanting new world.

Outcome: speaking and listening presentation



OPTION 2: GALLERIES VISIT AND STORY SESSION

An hour exploring The Story Museum's immersive Galleries, followed by an hour-long themed literacy session chosen from the following options:

YEARS 1-3: STORY PORRIDGE

Suitable for: Years 1 - 13, depending on the literacy session selected.

Length of session: 2 hours

Session times: 10:00 – 12:00 or 12:30-14:30

Cost: £200+VAT per class of up to 35 students

Students will join in with participatory retellings of traditional folk and fairy tales, and learn to retell the story in groups. They will use the classic device of the Rule of 3 to create their own story.

Outcome: speaking and listening presentation

Students are introduced to oral stories that star the classic character of the Trickster, such as Anansi the Spider and Reynard the Fox, before creating and retelling their own versions.

Outcome: speaking and listening presentation, written draft if requested

YEARS 1-3: STORY TRICKSTERS

YEARS 2-5: MINIBEAST ADVENTURE

This brand new session is available until Easter 2024 to complement our temporary exhibition, Brilliant, which explores ways to tackle climate change. After exploring imaginative examples such as Lewis Carroll's Rocking Horse Fly and Bread-and-Butter Fly, students will work in groups to invent their own marvellous minibeast character, whose special superpowers will combat climate change against the forces working against them.

Outcome: speaking and listening presentation, written draft if requested

YEARS 2-7: STORY PORTALS

Students explore portals used in classic stories featured in the Enchanted Library, from the Rabbit Hole down into Wonderland to the Wardrobe through to Narnia. Students then create their own magical portal between two worlds, using a wealth of materials to stimulate the beginning of an enchanting story, including the beautiful mini worlds displayed in cabinets in the Magic Common Room.

Outcome: speaking and listening presentation, written draft if requested

YEARS 3-7: FANTASY MAP MISSION

Students will encounter the classic structure of the Quest story, and explore maps and plans found in many popular children's stories such as Tolkien's Middle Earth, C S Lewis' Narnia and A A Milne's Hundred Acre Wood. Students will be transported into different fantasy worlds before creating their own maps to support story writing.

Outcome: speaking and listening presentation, written draft if requested

YEARS 4-8: YOUNG STORYTELLERS

Students listen and join in with traditional oral stories from around the world and then create their own version using the key elements of story - character, setting, theme and plot structure.

Outcome: speaking and listening presentation, written draft if requested

YEARS 5-13: WRITE AT THE STORY MUSEUM

The Story Museum's evocative settings provide the perfect space to give your students' writing experience a lift. Guided by our Learning Team, made up of experienced primary and secondary teachers, your students will explore the Museum's story-based environments with a view to inspiring new pieces of writing with a focus on vocabulary and metaphorical language.

Outcome: speaking and listening presentation, writing draft

YEARS 5-13: MUSEUM MAKER

A revitalising approach to your own class set text. The students will explore The Story Museum's curation process and then design an immersive narrative environment based on close reading and analysis. Please let us know in advance the text you would like us to base the session on; if you have no preference, we will use *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*. Past bespoke sessions have included Betsy Byars' *The Midnight Fox*, Michelle Magorian's *Goodnight Mr Tom*, James Dashner's *The Maze Runner*, Aldous Huxley's *Brave New World*, and Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*.

Outcome: speaking and listening presentation; illustrated and annotated design using quotations

YEARS 9-11: NARRATIVE WRITING: MY PRECIOUS

Investigate story objects in this in-depth workshop. Using treasures linked to our 1001 Story Collection, students will be inspired to create their own stories. Students leave with the opening passage of a piece of fiction to develop back in the classroom.

Outcome: written opening to a narrative piece

YEARS 9-11: NARRATIVE WRITING: WRITTEN WITCHES

Expand students' narrative writing repertoire by analysing historical and fictional witches. Listen to oral stories, debate and discuss the principals of witch finding. Students leave with a specialised plan to build on back in the classroom.

Outcome: specialised writing plan

YEAR 12-ADULTS IN FTE: ORAL STORYTELLING TECHNIQUES

This session is a basic, 1 hour introduction to oral storytelling techniques, using theories from ancient, modern and contemporary storytellers.

Please note that this session is for further education institutions only, such as teacher training colleges and universities. If you are a school or institution looking for in-service, continuing professional development training for your staff members, please contact us for details of our CPD and adult training sessions.



Returning from a city story walk

OPTION 3: CITY STORY WALK

Our Learning Team will lead your group to iconic sites around the city of Oxford from some of fiction's greatest moments. Select your chosen story below.

YEAR 2-4: ALICE STORY WALK

YEARS 2-4: NARNIA STORY WALK

YEARS 4-ADULT: WONDER WALK

Take a story-themed walk through Oxford to see the places in the city that inspired its most famous fantasy writers.

Suitable for: Years 2-13

Length of session: 2 hours

Session times: 10:00 – 12:00 or 12:30-14:30

Cost: £200+VAT per class of up to 35 students

Come on a walk through the story of Alice's Adventures in Wonderland. We'll begin at The Story Museum, then walk along to Christ Church Meadow, the location of many sites that inspired Lewis Carroll. As your Story Guide retells the story, we'll have a Caucus Race, a Caterpillar Contest, a game of 'Red Queen Says', and fun with riddles and charades along the way.

Come on a walk through the story of The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe with our Story Leader. We'll begin at The Story Museum, and walk towards the grounds of Oxford Castle, 'the perfect setting for a retelling of the dramatic events at the White Witch's Palace.

From the Narnia lamppost and Alice's gate to the spires and rooftops of Oxford...the Wonder Walk route features stunning locations including the Radcliffe Camera and Christ Church, with a few dragons along the way! The walk features authors past and present who have been inspired by Oxford in some way: Kieran Millwood Hargrave (*The Girl of Ink and Stars*), C S Lewis (the *Narnia* series), J R R Tolkien (*The Hobbit*), Lewis Carroll (*Alice's Adventure's in Wonderland*), Philip Pullman (*Northern Lights* trilogy), Katherine Rundell (*Rooftoppers*) and Patience Agbabi (*The Infinite*).

During the walk your students will learn key facts about the writers' lives and how simply observing the world can lead to ideas for classic fiction. Your students will also play the stories through a variety of multi-sensory games and storytelling.

OPTION 4: GALLERY VISIT WITH CITY OF STORIES FILM

For only an extra £30 for your whole class, why not board our Story Craft for a short film flying through a thousand years of Oxford's story history - the perfect way to provide context for your visit

Includes a Gallery visit, literacy session, and City of Stories film experience in the Story Craft.

Suitable for: Years 2-13

Length of session: 2 hours, 30 minutes

Session times: 10:00 – 14:00

Cost: £230+VAT per class of up to 35 students

OPTION 5: DAY OF DELIGHT

Select your literacy session from Option 2 and chosen city story walk from Option 3 and enjoy an extended visit to The Story Museum.

Includes a Gallery visit, literacy session, and City Story Walk.

Suitable for: Years 2-13

Length of session: 4 hours (including 30 minute lunch break)

Session times: 10:00 – 14:30

Cost: £300+VAT per class of up to 35 students

OPTION 6: DAY OF EXTRAORDINARY DELIGHT

Select your literacy session from Option 2 and chosen city story walk from Option 3 and add on a visit to the Museum's City of Stories film experience for a whole day at The Story Museum.

Includes a Gallery visit, literacy session, City Story Walk AND City of Stories film experience. Whew!

Suitable for: Years 2-13

Length of session: 5 hours (including 30 minute lunch break)

Session times: 09:30-14:30 or 10:00-15:00

Cost: £330+VAT per class of up to 35 students