

Art Collectors Activity Guide

This is a great activity that will need completing at school

Purpose: To use photography to create a piece of artwork

Time: Approximately 20 minutes

Location: Any safe space at High Peak Junction in and around the workshops and train carriages.

Resources: Digital cameras or tablets (brought from school), examples photos / artwork

Teaching notes:

Explain to the class that their mission is to collect interesting images that tell the story of High Peak Junction and that back at school they are going to use these images to create a piece of artwork.

Remind the class that they do not need to go anywhere near the canal, and they are not to touch any tools or materials they come across without the permission of their adult.

Split the class into smaller groups, each with an adult, if possible don't have a group yourself, that way you can oversee all the groups and help where needed. Make sure there is at least 1 camera or tablet per group.

You could challenge the children to each take photos of 5 things that could fit in their hand, 5 that are about the same size as them and 5 that are much bigger than them.

Another challenge could be for each group to focus on taking photos based on shapes, e.g. one group taking photos that show circles or curves, another squares or rectangles, or long and thin items etc.

You could give each group their own limited area to photograph, e.g. one group around the forge area, another around the inspection pit, or in the train carriages, outside etc. This would really help the group focus on what and how they could take pictures, instead of dashing around trying to photograph everywhere and everything.

Show some example photos. Point out that you do not always have to photograph the whole object, they could 'zoom' in on an interesting shape, pattern or part of the object.

Set them off in their groups with a set time and place to return to.

Back at school

Back at school if you have appropriate digital software the children can make a collage / repeating pattern etc. out of the photos which could then be printed out.

Alternatively print out the photos for each group, they could then be cut out and made into a physical collage to represent the different aspects of High Peak Junction.



