TEACHER'S HIGHLIGHTS

For more information: please go to www.historicdockyard.co.uk/learning - Telephone number: 023 9283 9766 (opt. 3)
Welcome to Portsmouth Historic Dockyard

Thank you for booking a trip to Portsmouth Historic Dockyard. This information will help plan your day and make the most of your Discovery Visit.

Top Tips!
Bring the Teacher’s Highlights on your pre-visit to help you plan your day and identify your must-sees.

We have included some ideas for talking points to encourage debate and discussion. Feel free to adapt them to link with your topic.

Please split classes into smaller groups of 5/6 to help you, and our other visitors, have a safe and enjoyable visit.

Don’t forget you can download free ‘pick and mix’ challenge packs from our website to help your class explore.

When planning your day make sure you factor in walking times between our attractions and facilities—it is a large site!
WELCOME TO HMS VICTORY

HMS Victory is most famous as Nelson's flagship at the Battle of Trafalgar but enjoyed a long naval history before that fighting in the American War of Independence, and the French Revolutionary Wars. HMS Victory is still part of the Royal Navy and is the oldest commissioned warship in the world.

All Hands on Deck Discovery Visit: Don't miss the Lower Gun Deck to see how the crew lived. Find Nelson's cabin, how do the two areas compare?

Great Naval Innovations and Pioneers Discovery Visit: Don't miss the flag lockers on the Poop Deck. They held the signal flags called Popham's Code used by Nelson to send secret messages between the ships.

SHIP HIGHLIGHTS

QUARTER DECK
Discover the nerve centre of the ship where Nelson directed the Battle of Trafalgar. See the spot where he was shot by a French sharpshooter commemorated on a plaque on the deck.

NELSON'S CABIN
Explore where Nelson planned the Battle of Trafalgar and briefed his captains. The smaller round table in the far section is the real table Nelson actually used on board. On the far right next to the window is a small concealed room which is Nelson's toilet; on a ship, toilets are called heads. You can also see a replica of Nelson's bed. Nelson couldn't get into a hammock once he lost his arm, he used an army cot bed instead.

MIDDLE GUN DECK
This is the middle of the three gun decks. The largest guns were on the deck below and the smaller on the deck above. HMS Victory had 104 guns which made it a first-rate ship of the line. The Galley is where all the food was cooked on board.

LOWER GUN DECK
This is where 600 men ate and 460 men slept every night. The Starboard (right) side shows the deck on a normal day, the port (left) side shows it ready for battle. Have a look at the hammocks they would sleep in. Imagine how crowded it would be. At the very front of the port side, the deck below your feet is some of the oldest wood remaining; because of rot and pests most of HMS Victory's timbers have been replaced over the years.

ORLOP DECK - MIND YOUR HEAD
This is where craftsmen like the carpenter lived and worked. This is the lowest part of the deck but the carpenter was over 182 cms tall! During a battle Surgeon Beatty worked at the bottom of the ship trying to help injured sailors. The lone lantern marks the spot where Nelson died at 4.30pm on 21 October 1805; he had just learned that the Battle of Trafalgar was won.

UNDER HULL WALK WAY
Get a new perspective on HMS Victory as you walk under the hull. This view gives you a real insight into the construction and scale of the ship. HMS Victory was built by skilled shipwrights by hand based on plans by designer Thomas Slade.

WELCOME TO HMS WARRIOR

A pioneering ship for the period, as it was the first armour-plated, iron-hulled warship. HMS Warrior has both sails and an engine which made it one of the fastest ships of the day at 14 knots and it never had to fire a shot in anger. Despite being so innovative, HMS Warrior was soon replaced by ships that refined the original design.

All Hands on Deck Discovery Visit: Check out the main gun-deck to see how the crew lived and find the Officers cabins below. How do they compare? How many jobs can you find to do on board?

Great Naval Innovations and Pioneers Discovery Visit: HMS Warrior was very innovative as it was made of both iron and wood; and has a sail and engines. What other machinery can you spot around the ship to help do different jobs?

SHIP HIGHLIGHTS

MAIN GUN DECK
This is the centre of activity on board. Most of the sailors lived and worked here, eating and socialising on retractable tables between the guns and sleeping in hammocks hooked to the ceiling. Also on this deck is the Galley where all food was cooked on board.

CAPTAIN'S CABIN
Captain Cochrane was Captain of HMS Warrior and these are his private cabins. Officers were allowed their own food and furnishings on board which can be clearly seen in his cabins. How does his cabin differ from the living spaces on the main gun deck?

LAUNDRY ROOM
Victorian Sailors wore white uniforms, but on HMS Warrior, they got incredibly dirty whilst shovelling coal into the boilers. So, HMS Warrior was the first ship to have washing machines on board to clean the uniforms.

ENGINE/BOILER ROOM
HMS Warrior's steam engine powers one propeller which can make the ship travel up to 14 knots. The engine is generally run once a day; even if you're not lucky enough to see it working, you can still smell the oil and grease needed to keep the different parts moving. Down the steps and through the door is the boiler room where 10 boilers needed feeding with coal and ash to keep the ship moving. HMS Warrior carried 867 tonnes of coal which would generally last 2,400 miles.

SICK BERTH
The sick berth was run by Surgeon Wells who would treat any injured or unwell sailors on board. There are four beds for seriously unwell sailors which can swing with the motion of the ship, and further beds could by hung from the metal bars on the ceiling. If a sailor was unwell with a very infectious disease, they made a mattress from straw which was burnt afterwards. There is also a medicine cabinet with lots of bottles filled with things Victorian doctors' thought would make you better. Some can be recognised as in use today.
WELCOME TO HMS M.33

HMS M.33 is a monitor ship built during the First World War in 1915 with a crew of 67.

All Hands on Deck Discovery Visit: Check out the forward mess to see how the crew lived and find the Officers’ quarters above, how do they compare? How many jobs can you spot to do on board? The wheelhouse also has a cat-flap used by Miss Muggins the ship’s cat. Not something usually found on a Royal Navy ship. What job would a ship’s cat do on board?

Great Naval Innovations and Pioneers Discovery Visit: The First World War saw many innovations. The hull was specially designed to get into shallow water, and the Ship was fitted with a new Telegraphy office. Even the paintwork was very new; dazzle camouflage helped to obscure the shape of ships at sea.

FORWARD MESS
This area is where 52 of the crew ate and 44 sailors slept. It’s the 20th Century but sailors on HMS M.33 continued to sleep in hammocks. The Forward Mess was one of two places on the ship with a stove. This was the only source of heat for the crew during the winter months. The thin metal hull meant the ship was an uncomfortable place to serve on. In summer it felt like an oven and in winter it was unbearably cold.

CAPTAIN AND OFFICER’S STORE
This is the personal store for the officers and Captain. Unlike the crew, they were able to bring more of their personal items and own food on board. Ordinary sailors were allowed one ditty box to store their personal items in.

WASHROOM AND HEADS
This is the main place for the sailors to wash on the ship. There are only two basins to wash in and two toilets (or heads). Any waste would have been pumped into the sea. In comparison, officers had wash basins in their rooms and even a shower to use.

TELEGRAPHY OFFICE
Use of wireless communication at sea expanded at the turn of the 20th century, becoming more common after the outbreak of the First World War. HMS M.33 was fitted with a Type 11 Spark Transmitter with a Type C receiver, designed to send and receive messages in Morse code. Communication Ratings during the First World War were often young boys of 15 and 16. They specialised in Telegraphy (and were known as ‘Sparks’) or Signals using semaphore and lamps (and were known as ‘bunts’). Bunts could send a whopping 30 words a minute using semaphore.

WELCOME TO THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE ROYAL NAVY GALLERIES

The HMS, Sailing Navy and Nelson galleries are located in splendid storehouses dating from the 18th century. The separate Victory Gallery was designed to house an exhibition about Admiral Lord Nelson and HMS Victory. It was built just prior to the Second World War.

All Hands on Deck Discovery Visit: Explore life at sea for the Georgian sailor in the Sailing Navy gallery. Then fast forward through time to HMS gallery to compare life for modern sailors; don’t forget to investigate the interactives to hear veterans’ experiences told in their own words.

Great Naval Innovations and Pioneers Discovery Visit: The Royal Navy has always pioneered new inventions and developments. Discover more about the explorers, inventors, scientists and leaders that not only changed life in the Royal Navy but the wider world and even our lives today. What other machinery can you spot around the ship to help do different jobs?

NELSON GALLERY
Explore the life and legacy of Vice-Admiral Horatio Nelson; from paintings to personal items owned by Nelson himself. See the incredible collection of Nelson memorabilia, both mass-produced for the public, and small intimate items made for those closest to him, including jewellery made of Nelson’s hair.

SAILING NAVY
This gallery will help you discover more about life in the Navy. There are plenty of objects to investigate. What food was served on the sailor’s table? Map the world with James Cook and Sir John Franklin. How strong were fighting men? Use the cutlass and musket to find out how heavy the equipment was.

HEAR MY STORY GALLERY
Investigate the modern history of the Royal Navy and see just how much has changed over 100 years. Find out about some of our more unusual stories, including the world’s oldest Christmas pudding. Use the Morse code interactive to send messages and look to find what has replaced hammocks on board ships.

VICTORY GALLERY
Journey through the life of HMS Victory, from Acorn to Icon. See the brand-new immersive film capturing Victory’s great adventure after Trafalgar to the present day. Don’t miss the viewing platform on the upper floor with its great views of Portsmouth Harbour and ships in port.
WELCOME TO THE MARY ROSE MUSEUM

The Mary Rose Museum houses the wreck of King Henry VIII's flagship alongside thousands of original Tudor artefacts reflecting all levels of Tudor life.

Built 1510  Sank 1545  Raised 1982

A mixture of artefacts, films, pictures, labels, activities and handling objects are used to tell the story of the Mary Rose. The vast majority of artefacts in the museum date from one day in history – the day the ship sank, 19 July 1545. Look out for the Don't miss and Did you know? labels in the display cases, which form a child-friendly trail around the Museum.

All Hands on Deck Discovery Visit: Displays focus on the work of key crew members on the ship, such as the Carpenter, Cook, Surgeon and Archer. Compare life for the ordinary crew with life for the officers by looking at their personal possessions. The materials objects are made from give a good clue; e.g. officers used pewter tankards, but the crew used wooden ones. Find out who the men of the Mary Rose were through evidence from skeletons and DNA.

Great Naval Innovations and Pioneers Discovery Visit: King Henry VIII inherited his father’s fleet of five ships. As soon as he became king, he made plans to expand shipbuilding in England and began creating his own Army by Sea. By the time he died he had built up the Royal Navy to more than 40 ships. The Mary Rose was the first ship with watertight gunports (square flaps in the side of the ship), meaning more heavier guns could be carried.

MUSEUM HIGHLIGHTS

MAIN DECK
The Cowdray Painting shows a panoramic view of the Sinking of the Mary Rose off Portsmouth in 1545. The main deck was home to the Carpenter, Surgeon and Gunner as well as Hatch the dog, the ship's ratter! Your first view of the ship's hull indicates the scale of the Mary Rose when she was new – 45 metres long and 15 metres wide. Projections and sound effects show the crew at work during peace and war.

LOWER DECK
The first gallery shows the story of the science behind the Mary Rose story, including diving, archaeology and the study of human remains. A full-body reconstruction stands next to the skeleton of an archer. The lower deck contained the ship's stores in baskets, barrels and boxes. It was home to the Cook and the Purser (who was in charge of supplies and pay for the crew). Here you can see the first timbers to be found underwater marked with three orange squares.

UPPER DECK
This deck is home to the Navigator and the Archers and Soldiers. There is a handling area with interactive elements for pupils to explore. Airlocks mean that in the main gallery there is no glass between you and the ship, giving amazing views of the hull. Highlights include the ship's anchor. The final gallery houses musical instruments and other personal possessions, including some glittering gold coins.