



A Teaching Resource

In Coventry's Defence Contents KS2 & KS3



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- Directions
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Coventry city wall remain



INTRODUCTION

Session length: Dependent on school and route choice

Session Description: Routes are varied to suit KS2-KS3

Discover the remains of Coventry's medieval city wall. Follow one of the wall's original routes around the city and identify features still visible today.

This teacher's resource pack has been designed to support schools with their curriculum teaching and encourage outside the classroom learning.

Within this pack you will find a map of Coventry with roads from various periods of Coventry's history, three routes to choose from, tasks to consider on route and suggestions of cross curricular activities supporting the development of key skills as well as other useful resources to complement your work in the classroom either before or after your trek. We also recommend a visit to the museum and the medieval section of the history gallery to get the most out of your pack.

Learning Outcomes

Through attending this session your children will build on the following skills:

- Speaking, listening, group discussion and interaction
- Chronology, knowledge and understanding of history
- Knowledge and understanding of materials
- Grouping and classifying materials
- Exploring forces and motion



Coventry city wall remain

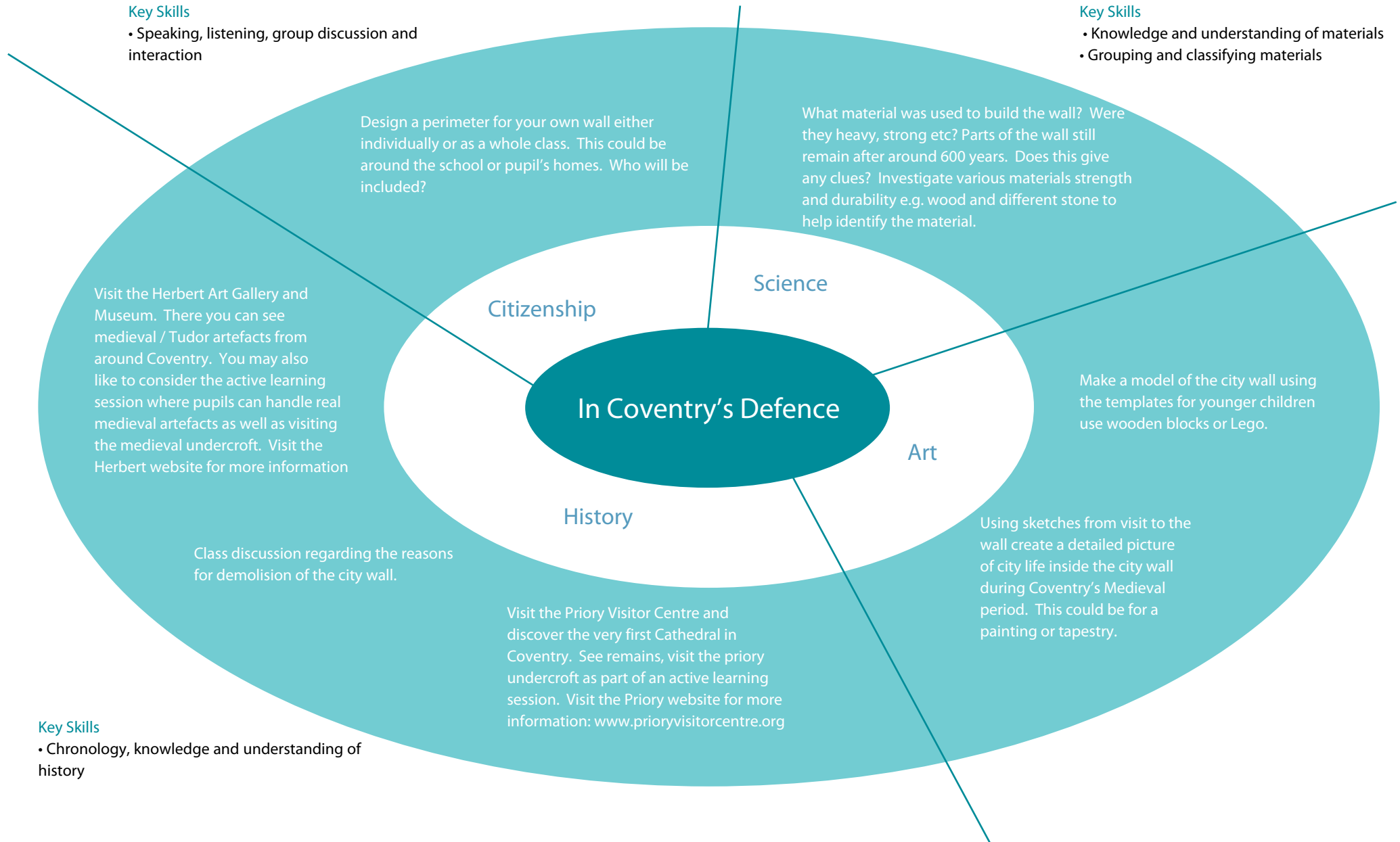


Key Skills

- Speaking, listening, group discussion and interaction

Key Skills

- Knowledge and understanding of materials
- Grouping and classifying materials



Key Skills

- Chronology, knowledge and understanding of history



BRIEF HISTORY OF CITY WALL

- The town was defended by a "Town Ditch".
- Coventry was one of the four most important cities in England and was becoming very wealthy. This may have made it a strategic target in times of war
- Coventry became so rich that it was worth protecting with a wall, Money to pay for the wall was raised by "murage" based on a Latin word 'murus' meaning 'wall' - a toll on goods coming into the city. This was agreed by the monarch of the time, Edward III.
- Work started on the city wall around 1355 with the first stone being laid by mayor Richard Stokes at New Gate. It progressed westwards - clockwise. By 1399 most of the south side of the town was walled and by 1430 the whole of the south side had been walled. This enclosed the wealthiest parts of the town as then was. (Eileen Gooder 1971)

Information collected from: www.historiccoventry.co.uk

From start to finish it took almost 180 years to reach its final form and ran for 3.62km (2.25 miles) around the city when complete. It was approximately 3m (9ft) wide and between 4m and 5m (12-15ft) feet high. Across the main entrances to Coventry straddled five impressive gates, like the magnificent Greyfriars Gate, which stood on

Warwick Lane, the main route in from the south.

Eight minor gates such as Swanswell Gate and Cook Street Gate stood over the lesser roads. They are the only two surviving gates in existence and can be spotted on the northern boundary of the city centre. In between the gates were various towers for the storage of arms, guns and other weapons.

The city gates would open at 5am in the morning to the sound of church bells and close at 9pm. During times of trouble, men were elected from each ward of the city to guard the walls in what was known as 'watch and ward'. Throughout its history the city wall was also accompanied by a large defensive ditch just in front of it. It generally measured up to 10m (33ft) wide and up to 3m (10ft) deep. At times it was badly maintained and often clogged with rubbish and other un-wanted debris chucked out by the various citizens.

Information collected from: <http://iccoventry.icnetwork.co.uk>

- The present day remains (and lack of) is a result of the civil war. When Charles II began his reign he decided to de-construct the walls that had kept out his father during the Civil War. In 1662 an order was given by the King to demolish Coventry's walls and fortifications. The Earl of Northampton arrived with 500 troops on the

22nd July 1662 to carry out the order. The only two gates which have survived the demolition included in the kings orders are, sadly, the simplest gates of Swanswell and Cook St. These were robbed by the citizens of the town and resulted in road widening. Other gates were far more elaborate.

Information collected from: www.historiccoventry.co.uk



Coventry city wall remains



RISK ASSESSMENT DECLARATION

The city wall trek is a teacher led visit and runs via a choice of routes around the city centre of Coventry. The decision and appropriateness of route safety should remain with the teacher / school and we strongly recommend a pre-trek to complete a risk assessment suitable to your schools/ classes individual needs.

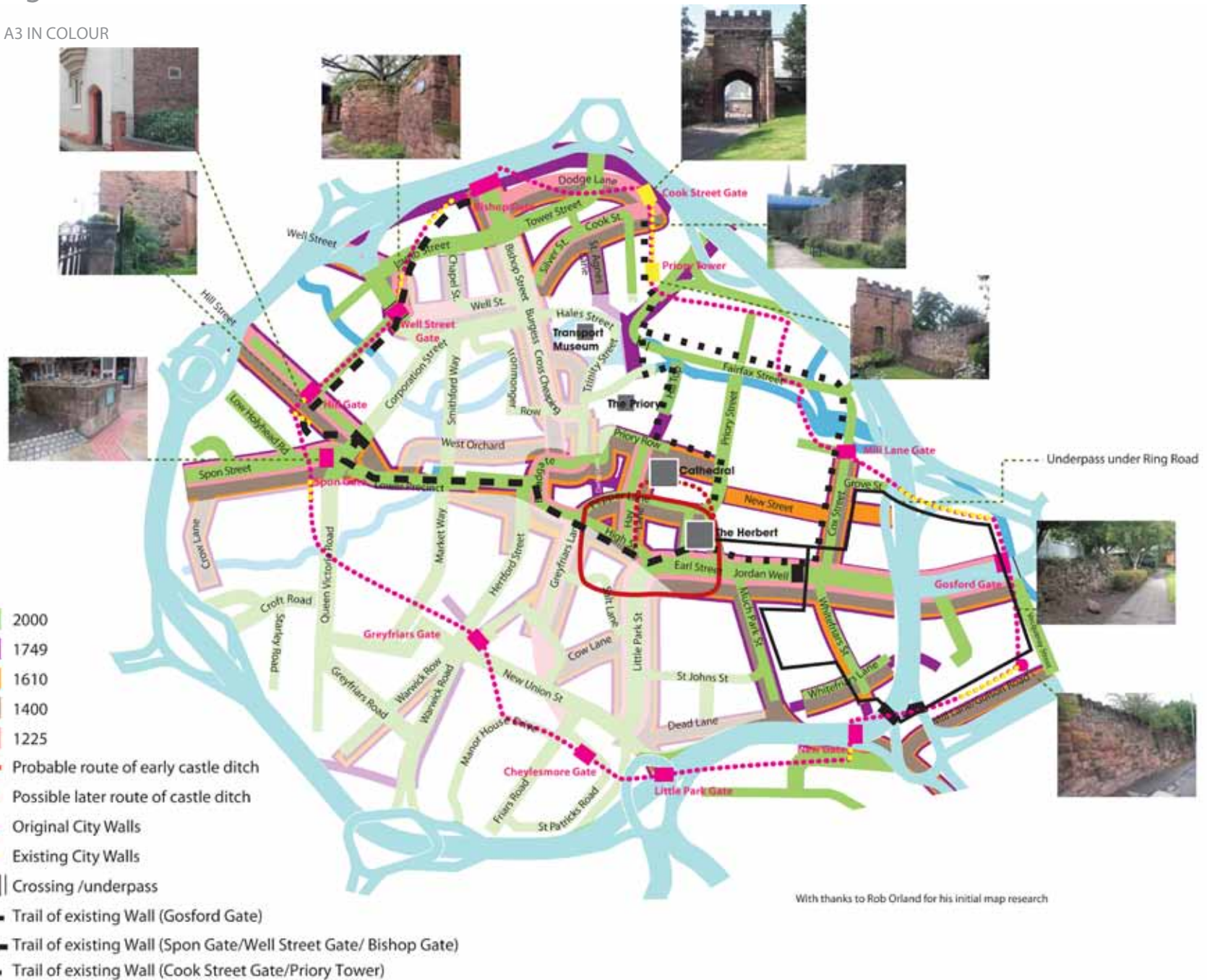
We have provided a choice of three routes, which can also be combined to extend your trek. Alternatively you could take your own route, but still utilise the activities.



City wall plaque

Herbert Learning

MAP - BEST PRINTED ON A3 IN COLOUR





ROUTE INSTRUCTIONS

Note: You can Google certain areas of the route via Google maps. If you drag the figure onto specific streets you can view various locations from the route. You cannot follow whole routes, but most areas are covered if you reposition the figure.

Also all routes start and end so that you can join other routes to extend your trek.

Route 1 ■

- Facing the Herbert turn left, walking past the Cathedral and University Square onto Priory Street which leads onto Fairfax Street.
- Join Hales Street until the Transport Museum then cross over the road and enter Lady Herbert's Garden round the back of the Transport Museum. You can enter via the bridge or road.
- Here you will see wall remains, Priory Tower and Cook Street Gate (as marked in yellow on the map).
- Walk back up past Sainsbury's (Sainsbury's on the right) and the BBC into Priory Place.
- At the fountain/ water feature of the Priory Visitors Centre turn left walking past the Priory Undercrofts (you may want to look through the window here to see medieval priory remains).
- Now turn right up Hill top (cobble hilly street), which will bring you out on Priory Row between Holy Trinity Church and the Cathedrals.
- Walk straight over and then take a left following the path through the old/new Cathedral. This will bring you out by the Herbert's new entrance on University square.





ROUTE INSTRUCTIONS

Note: You can Google certain areas of the route via Google maps. If you drag the figure onto specific streets you can view various locations from the route. You cannot follow whole routes, but most areas are covered if you reposition the figure.

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Route 2

- Facing the Herbert at the Bayley Lane entrance turn right down Bayley Lane turning left onto Jordan Well.
- Cross over the road at the zebra crossing, turning immediately right then turn left at Much Park Street.
- At the top of the road you will see an old medieval ruin by the University.
- Continue to walk up to the old Toy museum, turning left under the arch of the museum (alternatively walk through the park just after).
- When at the end of the cobbled path/road turn right heading towards Whitefriars (a medieval Friary) – this will take you under two underpasses.
- With Whitefriars facing turn right walking towards the main road and then turn left onto Gulson Road.
- You will see a large section of wall remains on this road (marked in yellow on the map).
- Keep walking past the Hospital where you will see a walkway on your left leading between the River Sherbourne (a chance to view one of the only openings still seen today in Coventry) and

student accommodation. Walk along here until you reach Far Gosford Street.

- You will need to cross over here (please note there is only partial crossing).
- After crossing continue to the right through the footpath which leads underneath the ring road.
- You will be able to view further wall remains along this footpath (as marked in yellow on the map between Gosford Gate and Mill Lane Gate).
- After viewing the wall remains continue along the footpath until you reach a small car park.
- At this point either return via Cox Street by turning left or turn right to join/extend your trek through Route 1 by crossing over and following down to Fairfax Street.



ROUTE INSTRUCTIONS

Note: You can Google certain areas of the route via Google maps. If you drag the figure onto specific streets you can view various locations from the route. You cannot follow whole routes, but most areas are covered if you reposition the figure.

Also all routes start and end so that you can join other routes to extend your trek.



Route 3

- Facing the Herbert at the Bayley Lane entrance cross over and head into Coventry City Centre via High Street and Broadgate to Upper Precinct.
- Walk through Lower Precinct crossing over via crossing (zebra to the right or pelican to the left) to Spon Street.
- You can observe wall remains and tower/gate markings in red slabs along the pavements and road. Also on the side wall of no.190 (which is part of the small row of shops opposite the large wall remains and just inside the gates of Coventry School Former Assessment Headquarters and Club.) These are marked in yellow on the map between Spon Gate and Hill Gate.
- Now walk round St John's Church turning left up Hill Street.
- You will be able to see wall remains on side of Bond's hospital (Bond's hospital is marked with a plaque).
- Now cross over (almost opposite) walk down Bond Street past the Town Wall Tavern Pub and joining the footpath which leads past the Belgrade Theatre.
- At the main road (Upper Well Street) cross over

at crossing to the left, then heading right to find the footpath next to the Salvation Army building.

- Here you can view further wall remains (marked in yellow on the map by Well Street Gate).
- The best route back is by returning to main road and turn left onto Corporation Street.
- Keep walking until you reach the end of the road, at which point you can cross over by the medieval school house building.
- Now head towards the Transport museum, where you can join route 1 at Lady Herbert's Garden and/or following return route from route 1.
- Please note: You could also extend your trek by following route 2 in reverse from this point.



ON ROUTE SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES

Can you find any evidence of the walls construction? Thinking hint: e.g. tool marks, mortar, consideration of size and shapes of stones and their portability. Compare and contrast materials and building techniques today.

Can you find any modern wall constructions? What are the differences / similarities?

Discussion points: historic uses of gates and towers, positioning of wall, gates and towers and the significance of why they were built where they were, reasons for change of incorporated area, what might have surrounded the wall? Is there any visible evidence remaining which suggests these theories?

Can you find evidence of deterioration of the wall? Consider reasons for this deterioration e.g. original destruction, erosion, uses / damage.

Imagination task: How would you get inside the city wall without being spotted and for what reasons? Thinking hint: e.g. to avoid paying taxes e.g. climb over wall (leg up!), bribery? Role play back at school.

Sketch detail of wall remains. Consider shading techniques or consider reconstructing the wall.



Please return your completed evaluation to:
 The Learning Team
 Coventry Heritage and Arts Trust Ltd
 The Herbert Museum and Art Gallery
 Jordan Well
 Coventry
 CV1 5QP
 Alternatively fax it to: 024 7629 4790 .

TEACHER EVALUATION

- Did you use this pack to take your class on a city wall trek? Y [] N []
 If no, what were your reasons _____

- Did you use any of this Teacher's pack without the actual Trek? Y [] N []
 Comments _____
 If yes:
 - What was the date of your Trek? _____
 - What year group did you take? N/A [] Yr _____
 - How many pupils did you take out? _____
- Was the map easy to use / follow? Y [] N []
 Comments _____
- Were the routes easy to follow? Y [] N []
 Comments _____
- Did you use the on route activities? Y [] N []
 Comments _____
 If yes, did you find them appropriate? Y [] N []
 Comments _____
- Did you find the background information useful? Y [] N []
 Comments _____
- Did you find the image bank useful? Y [] N []
 Comments _____
- Did the trek fit in with current aspects you are following in the curriculum? Y [] N []
 Comments _____
- Did the trek engage different learning needs? Y [] N []
 Comments _____
- Did you visit the Herbert Museum and Art Gallery either before or after your trek? Y [] N []
 If yes, was it pre trek [] or post trek []
 If yes, did you take part in a relevant active learning session? Y [] N []
 If yes, what was the session? N/A [] or _____

Please make any other relevant comments below

Name of School: _____ Name of teacher: _____

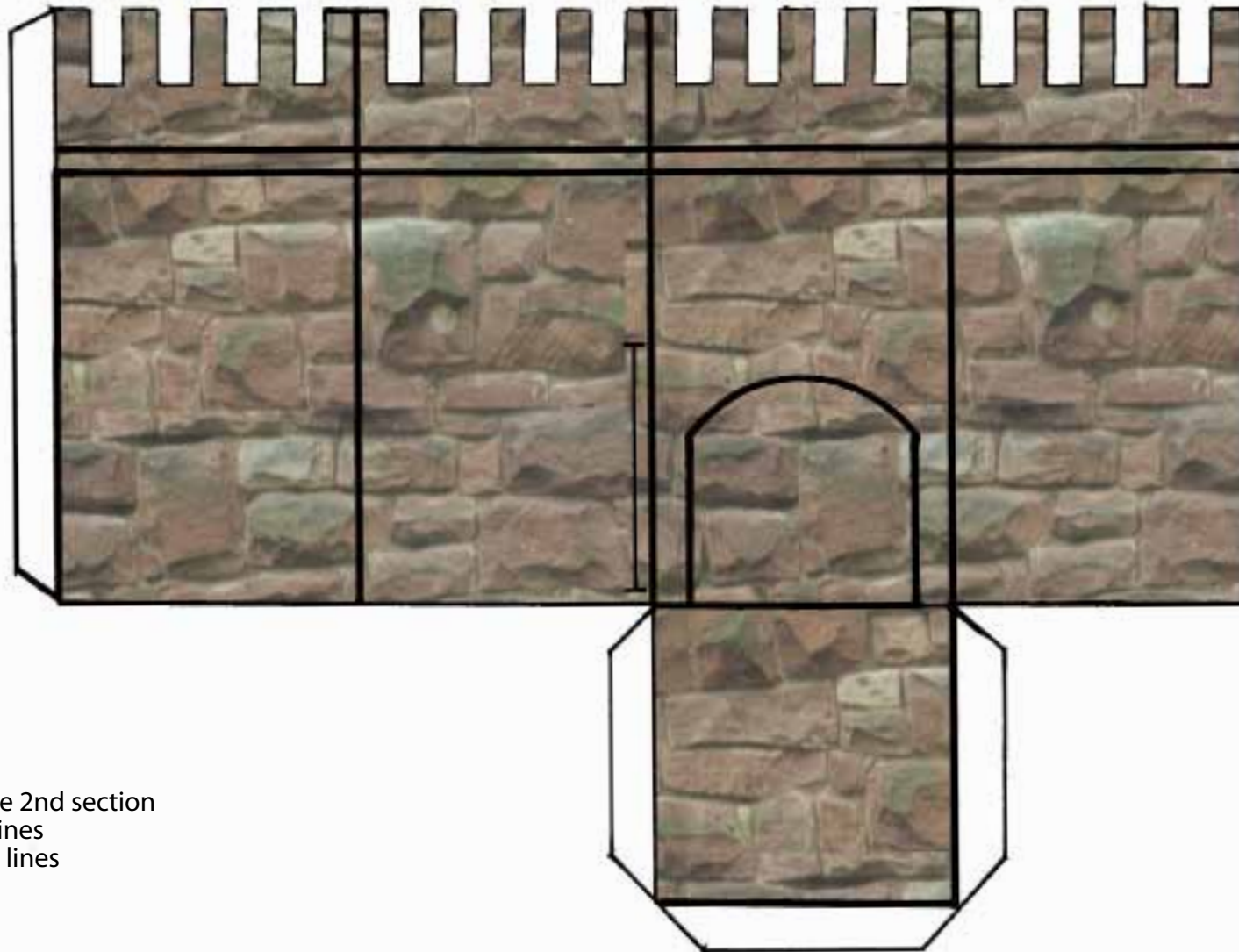
Contact: phone / email: _____

Are you happy for us to contact you via email with relevant learning marketing? Y [] N []

Thank you very much for taking the time to fill in this evaluation. As it is a self directed trek it is useful for us to keep a record of how much use this trek / resource pack is to teachers and help us to make future improvements in what we offer.



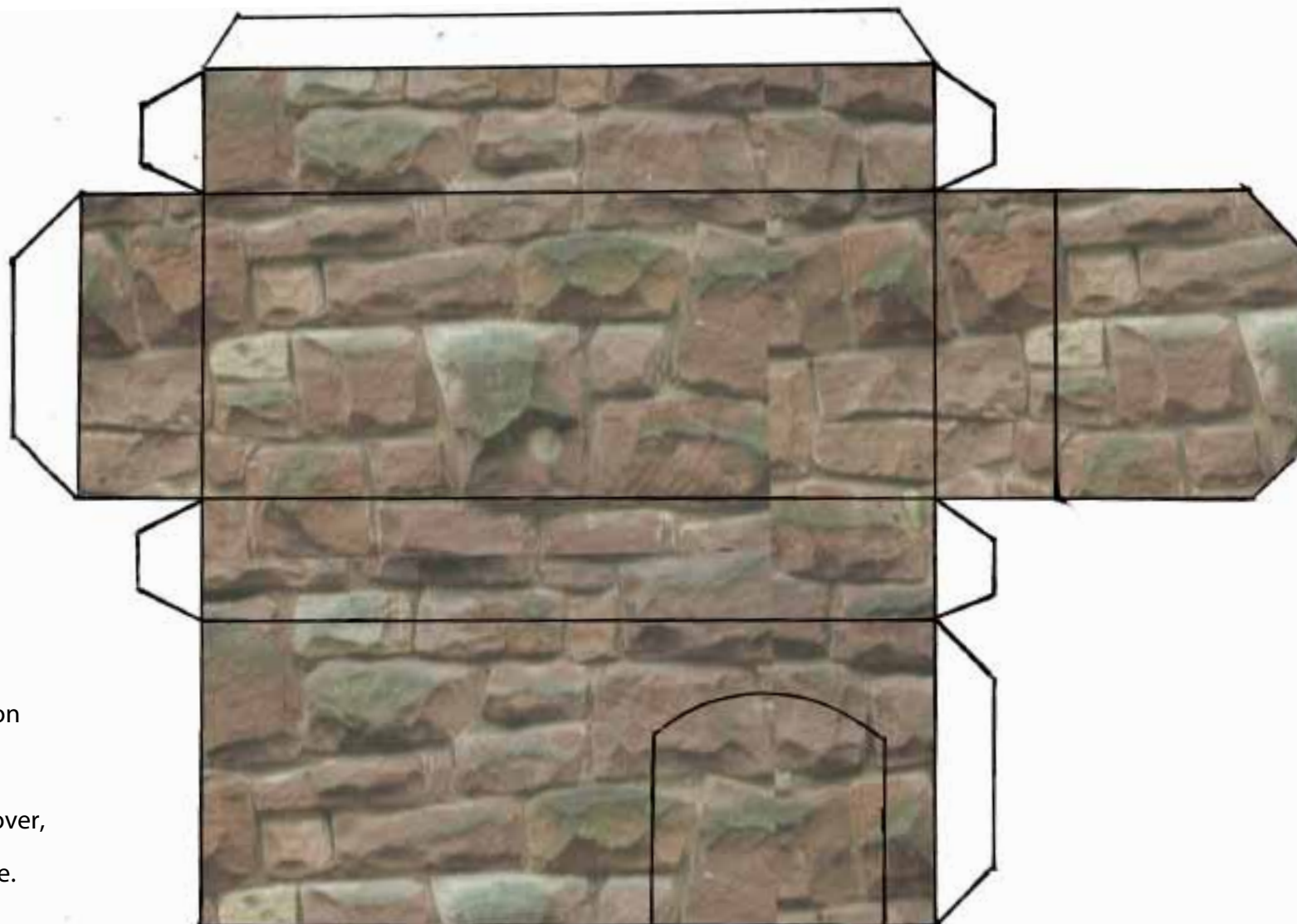
CITY WALL GATE MODEL



Cut out
Cut along strip in the 2nd section
Fold along vertical lines
Fold bottom square lines
Glue white strips
Stick together



CITY WALL MODEL



Cut out
Cut along strip in the 2nd section
Fold along lines
Glue white strips
Stick together
There will be a small piece left over,
position this piece through cut
section in gate and glue in place.



CITY WALL GATE MODEL





WALL



Wall remains at Spon Street



Wall remains at Spon Street



Wall remains at Spon Street



WALL



Wall in Lady Herbert's Garden



Wall in Lady Herbert's Garden



Swanswell Gate



WALL



Cook Stret Gate



Cook Street Gate



Plaque near Bishop Street



WALL



Wall near Cox Street



Wall near Cox Street



Wall at Gulson Road



WALL



Wall remains near Spon Street



Wall remains at Bond's Hospital



Wall remains at Bond's Hospital



WALL



Wall remains near Well Street



Wall and Bastion near Well Street



Plaque from wall near Well Street



WALL



Stone mason's chisel

A stone mason's chisel used to carve and shape stone.

This object can be seen in the medieval section of the History Gallery at the Herbert Art Gallery and Museum.



Whetstone

A whetstone is a tool used to sharpen tools used for trades such as carpentry and stone masonry.

This object can be seen in the medieval section of the History Gallery at the Herbert Art Gallery and Museum.



Pick axe

A small pick axe used for scoring lines and rough working out of stones and layout. A wooden mallet rather than a metal one would have been used with this.

This object can be seen in the medieval section of the History Gallery at the Herbert Art Gallery and Museum.



Craftsman: a skilled worker of many trades

Defence: ways to help protect a city, town, people or belongings.

Murage: based on the Latin word "murus" meaning wall. Meaning taxes to be paid on goods coming into the city.

Pick axe: a small pick axe used for scoring lines and rough working out of stones and layout.

Remains: what is left of something.

Stone mason's chisel: used to carve and shape stone.

Town ditch: a ditch is dug / created round a town or city and/ or its wall to defend it.

Trade: when goods are exported or imported from another place or someone's job / profession

Whetstone: a tool used to sharpen tools used for trades such as carpentry and stone masonry.



Cook Street Gate



If you are interested in finding out more detailed information about the city wall then have a look at the following websites.

<http://www.historiccoventry.co.uk/tour/spon-st.php>

Focus on:

- Street maps
- City wall & gates
- Historic tour
- Time machine
- Now and then
- Engraved Coventry
- Our cathedrals

<http://www.picturesofcoventry.co.uk> - search for city wall

<http://iccoventry.icnetwork.co.uk/coventrytimes> - search for city wall