

The Wonder Rooms

KS2 school session at the 1620s House & Garden

National Curriculum Links: Local Study & English

Delivered by Andrew McWilliam from Chorus Theatre

<https://www.chorustheatre.co.uk/>

(free pilot session)

Time: 10am to 2.30pm

Inspired by the Digby family who owned the house in the 17th Century



During the session the pupils will learn about exploration of the world, cartography and objects, items and inventions that were brought to England from other countries. This will be a practical drama session with the pupils actively involved in creating stories and responding to stimulus.

The key objective of the session is to uncover the 17th Century story of exploration and discovery during the Scientific Revolution using creative drama techniques. This will involve learning about the connections to the 1620s House and the life of James Digby. Throughout the session the pupils will learn the following:

- What were The Wonder Rooms?
- Who was James Digby?
- An overview of exploration before and after the Scientific Revolution
- How exploration took place
- The use of maps and the solar system for navigation

By the end of the session the pupils should have:

1. Gained a further understanding of the 17th Century events surrounding exploration and discovery
2. Developed a wider vocabulary of scientific terms
3. Gained an understanding of The Wonder Rooms and Cabinets of Curiosities
4. Been given the opportunity to communicate their understanding and to ask questions

Pupils should be taught to:

- Listen and respond appropriately to adults and their peers
- Ask relevant questions to extend their understanding and knowledge
- Articulate and justify answers, arguments and opinions
- Maintain attention and participate actively in collaborative conversations
- Use spoken language to develop understanding through discussion and exploring ideas
- Speak audibly and fluently with an increasing command of Standard English
- Participate in discussions, presentations, performances, role play, improvisations and debates
- Consider and evaluate different viewpoints, attending to and building on the contributions of others
- Select and use appropriate registers for effective communication