

# Danelaw

## Dark Age Explorer Days

*Unique living history services for schools:*

*Based at the Yorkshire Museum of Farming since 1992, Danelaw Living History Services offers a range of on-site or in-school services tailored to meet the needs of KS1 and KS2 National*

DANELAW CENTRE FOR  
LIVING HISTORY  
OCTOBER 2016

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An activity day for smaller school groups of up to 34 (and 4 adults foc), led by a costumed member of our Living History team. These days support the study of life in Viking OR Saxon Britain. Arriving as new settlers, the children will be taken to their new homes on our dark-age settlement and given appropriate costume. Here they will have the opportunity to experience first-hand the daily life of a Dark Age family as they explore their new homes. They will learn new skills and all about the hard work that was part of daily life. See over page for further details.

The Danelaw Centre for Living History, based at the Yorkshire Museum of Farming is proud to hold both the quality mark awarded by the Council For Learning Outside The Classroom (2009), and two prestigious Sandford Award for Heritage Education (2010 and 2015), awarded by the Heritage Education Trust. Both these awards reflect the high quality learning experiences provided by the centre which in the words of the Sandford judges " ... succeed in bringing history to life, providing children with a memorable educational experience which will enrich their understanding of the past."

Quality Badge awarded by



SANDFORD  
AWARD



**Our Philosophy:**

"I hear and I forget, I see and I remember, I do and I understand!" Based on this simple educational philosophy, the staff at Murton Park have gained an international reputation for providing educational and entertaining living history experiences for many thousands of children and teachers over the last 18 years.

**About Your Explorer Day Visit:**

A normal visit is designed to run from 10am to 2:00pm although timings can be tailored in advance to suit your requirements and circumstances.

The Explorer Day+ is aimed at smaller groups of up to 34 and is led by a single member of the living history team. On arrival you will be met and greeted by a costumed member of the Living History team who will remain with you throughout the day. The children will be welcomed, shown to the toilets and appropriate costumes for children and adults (which go over outdoor clothing) will be given out. This is followed by an initial safety briefing and orientation talk to set the scene for their day. This will include a tour around the village and a talk in the full sized Dark Age Longhouse which will provide the children with an opportunity to think about what daily life was like for our ancestors. After the longhouse talk the children will be divided into a maximum of four 'family' groups. You will then be shown to your area of the village and given four 'homes', where bags and packed lunches can be left.

There are three other 'workshop' buildings in your area of the village where the children (and adults) will perform a variety of tasks and an open area used for battle training. All materials and instructions are provided and after the initial set up, your group leaders will be responsible for supervising the indoor tasks. Weapons training is led by a member of our staff.

- 1) **The Lords House** – the children will have the opportunity to examine and sketch a range of replica artefacts in an authentic real-life setting.
- 2) **The Pottery Shop** – the children will have the opportunity to make a clay oil lamp.
- 3) **The Workshop**—where the children will learn to make and play a period board game.
- 4) **Weapons Training**— where the children learn the rudiments of battle drill (with dummy weapons!)

**Please Note: Activities may be adjusted to reflect prevailing weather conditions.**

**General Information:**

**Site Facilities:** There is ample car and coach parking available. There is a gift shop on site with a range of items at pocket money prices. Children may visit the shop at the end of the day, or alternatively pre-order items (please ask for further details).

**Preparing for your visit:** Children should wear sensible outdoor clothes and shoes or boots. To save time on the day, the children should be divided into 4 equal groups prior to the visit, unless you have a party of under 20 children, in which case please have them in 3 groups. One of your adult leaders must be assigned to supervise each group.

**Charges: £10.00 per child.**

**Further information:**

Copies of our in-house risk-assessment is available in .pdf format on our website to support schools in their own safety and follow-up planning and preparation. Please contact us for further details.

**Please Note: Food is not provided so you will need an appropriate packed lunch.**