



## Heritage Hero Awards from Home

March 2020

We've had a few queries regarding our Heritage Hero Awards this week, asking whether classes and family groups can work on the Awards remotely. The answer is yes – the flexibility of the Awards makes them very easy to adapt for your home schools. You might find the Awards complement something you are already doing or would make a great starting point for a new project. We think it's important to keep celebrating the successes and achievements of young people in these uncertain times.

The Heritage Hero Awards will work for any history, heritage and archaeology project, providing it follows the 5 project stages outlined below. The Awards remain free of charge and offer a framework, a focus and a reward element for your group, as well as resources (see last page for a selection of our favourites) and access to advice from our knowledgeable team.

The Awards are based on a relationship of trust and support between Archaeology Scotland and those taking part. Very deliberately the paperwork we ask for is minimal - we know you are all busy just now, and there is no required written work for participants – making them accessible for all ages and abilities.

The aims of the award scheme are:

- ◆ To improve self-confidence and wellbeing through engagement with challenging heritage projects
- ◆ To inspire young people to develop a lifelong interest in Scotland's past
- ◆ To increase awareness of how to access Scotland's heritage in schools, youth groups and similar organisations (this applies to homeschools too)
- ◆ To help foster links between heritage organisations, community groups and young people

### Key Details

Every project should allow participants to take part in the 5 activities listed below. These fit very naturally with project work, and should be easy to complete within any project you undertake.

#### Plan

Be involved in the planning of the project from the big ideas to the fine detail.

#### Investigate

Research and find out more about the heritage you want to engage with.

#### Engage

Visit, explore and experience heritage. Spend time on the site or with the collection at the heart of the project. (This section can be adapted to more local examples or indoor activities).

#### Inspire

Share what you have learnt in an imaginative way. Inspire others with something you create.

#### Reflect

Identify the transferable skills you have developed through the project.  
Evaluate your own performance, what you have learnt and how you could use this going forward.

There are 5 different award levels to cover all ages, abilities and projects. Completion of the previous level is not necessary. It is also possible for different participants/family members in a project to achieve different levels, based on their own participation or age. Our entry level award Heritage Explorer is applicable to projects of 3+ hours and our Gold level is suitable for more in-depth projects of 60+ hours.

## Projects

Projects can be based around any form of heritage that is currently safe to access from home or under government guidelines. This can include buildings in your local area, online museum collections, nearby historic sites or themed topics that are easy to research from home.

Here are some project ideas to get you started:

- ◆ **Study the history of your local area.** Have a look at old maps and photographs of your local area online. How has it changed through time? Carry out telephone interviews with older relatives and family friends from your town to find out how it changed in their lifetime; or on your daily walk take photographs in the same spot your old photographs were taken to show how it's changed. Share what you've learned with others by creating a heritage trail and map of your local area.
- ◆ **Your own home.** If you live in an older house why not look into its history? As above you can look at old maps and photos of the street, or photos your family might have of the house from before you were born. Or look for clues in the house itself – are there any clues to show if its layout has changed? Was it always a house? Create a poster to show your findings, you could share this on a digital platform.
- ◆ **Museums' collections.** Lots of museums have virtual gallery tours and 3D models of artefacts accessible online. Choose a period of history or specific artefacts you're interested in (we love the 3D Lewis Chess pieces models on the National Museums Scotland Sketchfab page) and base your project around these. You could make models and curate your own museum display at home based on your findings.
- ◆ **A Castle (or other historical site)** – Research online to find out more about your favourite castle, or perhaps another historical landmark visible from your window. Create a model of it using craft and recycled materials you have at home or try building it in Minecraft or with Lego. Your Lego and craft models might be great to use in a stop motion video!

We can help with all of the above, and are happy to talk through any ideas you have.

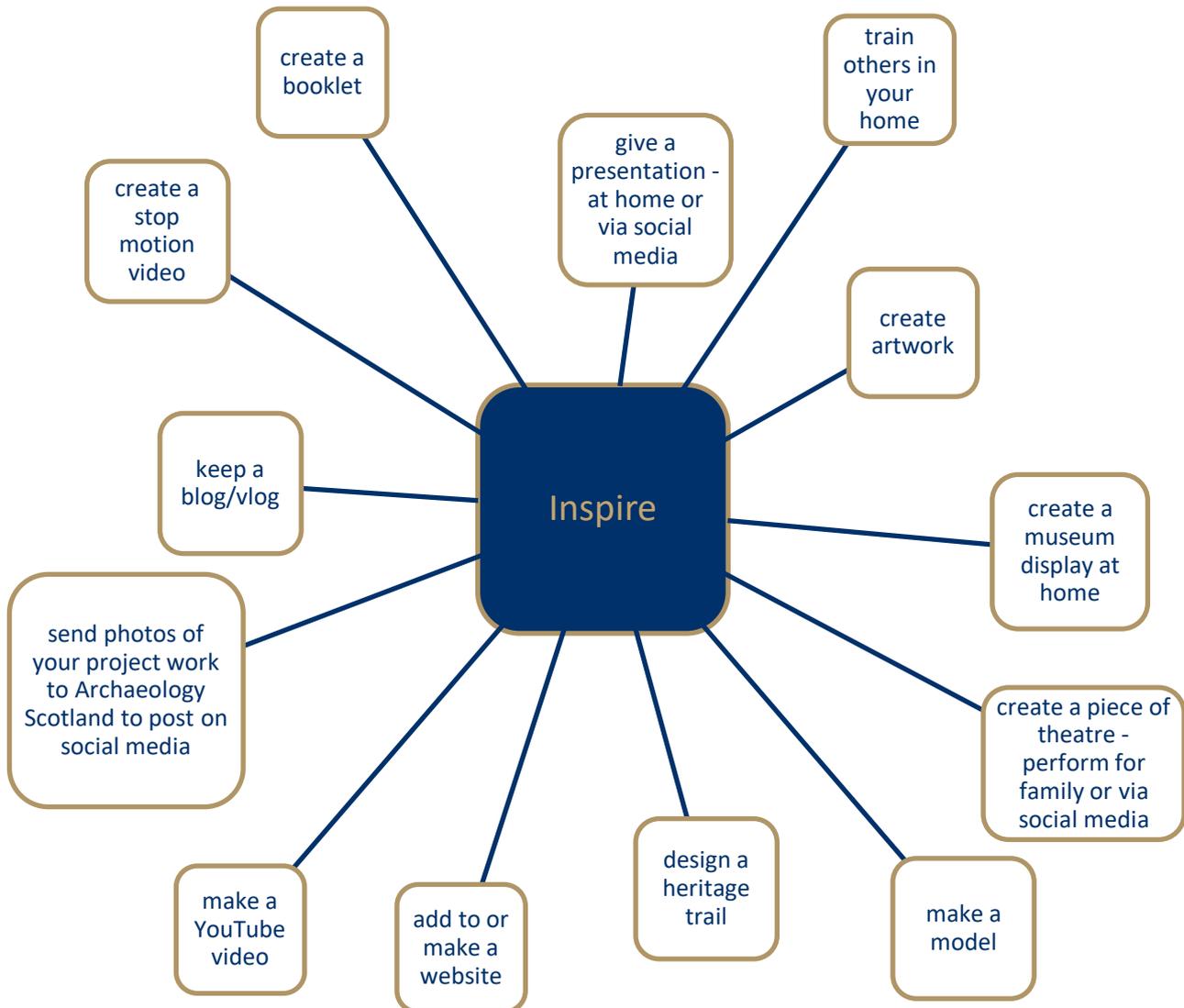
We have PDF Award workbooks we can email you to record your activities. These are completely optional but might be helpful for parents and guardians who are unfamiliar with wider achievement awards.

## The award sections

Here are more activity ideas for the **investigate, engage, and inspire** sections of the Award which are safe to do from home.

The lists of possible activities are only a starting place - here to offer you some ideas. They should not limit your creativity. We are looking forward to seeing the ideas created by you.





## How to take part in a Heritage Hero Award

We ask that you register for the awards before the start of the project, by completing the first side of our Project Proposal Form, which can be found on our website. We are happy to offer help and advice at that point, and whenever you need during the project.

When your project is finished, we ask for you to complete the second side of the Project Proposal Form and return it to us. We will review it and issue individual certificates for each member of your group. Certificates will be posted once it's safe to return to our offices.

## Contact us

A copy of our Handbook with further information can be found on our website alongside some inspiring case studies and the proposal form you'll need to register your project

[www.archaeologyscotland.org.uk/Learning/Heritage-Hero-Awards](http://www.archaeologyscotland.org.uk/Learning/Heritage-Hero-Awards)

For further information or a chat about the awards, please contact Becca at

[awards@archaeologyscotland.org.uk](mailto:awards@archaeologyscotland.org.uk), we can arrange a telephone or video call if you feel more supported this way.

## Useful Resources

Below is a list of resources you might find useful for completing your Awards:

- ◆ Heritage Resources Portal – a one-stop shop for all of the best heritage resources in Scotland. <https://archaeologyscotland.org.uk/heritage-resources-portal/>
- ◆ Explore your Neighbourhood – Archaeology Scotland’s resource to support you in exploring your neighbourhood using maps, photographs, and your own observation skills to learn how the area you live in has changed over time. <https://archaeologyscotland.org.uk/learning/learning-resources/>
- ◆ Archaeology Detectives – Archaeology Scotland's introductory resource for exploring historical sites using real archaeological skills. This resource would work well for investigating the history of your own home. The resource has separate guides for using historical maps, aerial photographs, historic photographs, surveying your site, photographing your site, sketching your site and presenting your information. Each guide is linked to the Heritage Hero Awards and the Curriculum for Excellence <https://archaeologyscotland.org.uk/learning/learning-resources/>
- ◆ National Museums Scotland Sketchfab - Fantastic 3D models of artefacts from the museum <https://sketchfab.com/nationalmuseumsscotland>
- ◆ Pastmap - Allows map searches of your local area highlighting all monuments, listed buildings etc. with a direct link to further information on Canmore. <https://pastmap.org.uk>
- ◆ Canmore - Historic Environment Scotland’s database of site information, images etc. <https://canmore.org.uk>
- ◆ National Collection of Aerial photography - A huge database of aerial photos, free to use for personal/ educational purposes. <https://ncap.org.uk>
- ◆ National Library of Scotland maps - A fantastic database of historic maps from Scotland. <https://maps.nls.uk>
- ◆ Mapping History - A guide for you/ your groups to using historic maps. <https://digital.nls.uk/mapping-history/>
- ◆ Side by Side (NLS) – National Library of Scotland's tool allowing you to view different georeferenced maps with modern maps and satellite images in split screen. <https://maps.nls.uk/geo/explore/side-by-side/#zoom=5&lat=56.00000&lon=-4.00000&layers=1&right=BingHyb>
- ◆ NLS digital library. The main page for the National Library’s digital collections. <https://digital.nls.uk/gallery/>
- ◆ History Pin. A shared archive of photos and historical records, linked to Google maps. <https://www.historypin.org/en/>
- ◆ Historic Environment Scotland resources for learning – Some great guides with excellent detailed information. <https://www.historicenvironment.scot/learn/learning-resources/>
- ◆ Crafting the past – digital recreations in Minecraft of some of Scotland’s history, heritage and archaeology. <https://www.craftingthepast.co.uk>