

## Outdoor Environmental Learning through the Arts



at Hemlington Hall Farm & Lake,  
Middlesbrough  
For Key Stages 1, 2 & 3

## Tees Valley Arts

**Tees Valley Arts** is a participative arts organisation based in Middlesbrough, working across the five boroughs of the Tees Valley (Darlington, Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, Redcar and Cleveland, Stockton). TVA champions participation in high quality, stimulating creative activities as a tool for improving the quality of life and learning for individuals and communities.

- ⇒ TVA works with children and young people of all ages and abilities, to help them learn, achieve and enjoy; TVA also delivers the science and environmental curriculum in imaginative and enjoyable ways.
- ⇒ TVA works with adults: helping those with disabilities, or mental health problems or issues like substance abuse, find ways to build confidence and move on in life.
- ⇒ TVA works in diversity, especially with people who have newly arrived in the UK, bringing communities together with mutual respect and celebration.

TVA has been delivering life-changing creative activities to the residents of the Tees Valley since 1982; TVA is a registered company and a charitable trust.

## Delivery Team

**Rowena Sommerville**, TVA Director, has a first degree in Illustration and a Masters in Creative Writing; she has worked extensively as a freelance writer and illustrator of children's books, and has delivered creative workshops to all ages and levels for many years.

**Joe Dunne**, TVA Heritage and Environment Officer, has a first degree in Fine Art and a Master of Science degree in Managing the Environment; he has many years experience working with environmental and conservation organisations in the UK and abroad and delivering environmental and outdoor education.



**Contact details:** TVA contact details are on the back  
**Sam Willoughby, Duty Officer, Heml**



## National Curriculum

All sessions support national curriculum elements in science, art & design, geography and literacy. We haven't itemised specific curriculum points as these change with activities and age of participants.

## Important information for schools

All sessions involve activities outside, so please ensure participants are wearing appropriate clothing and suitable footwear. Students will need to bring art aprons.

- ▶ Risk assessments will be provided for all activities. Schools will be required to complete their own risk assessment for transport.
- ▶ These activities can contribute to schools achieving Artsmark.
- ▶ Please note: TVA **cannot** guarantee a trained first aider will be present on site.

## Weather

If wet/ inappropriate weather, the same learning will be achieved through similar activities but indoors onsite.

## Materials

All materials will be provided. Students need to provide own art apron/ over garment.

**cover of this leaflet: please use these to book sessions  
ington Hall Farm 01642 596546**



## Minibeastly



Cost	£400 plus VAT (payable in advance)	
Where	Hemlington Hall Farm & lake (indoors onsite if wet)	
Time	Arrive for 9.15am start – depart 12noon	
Group size	Max. 30 students with a min. of 2 supporting adults to be divided into 2 groups	
TVA Personnel	Rowena Sommerville, Director Joe Dunne, Heritage & Environment Officer	

**Aim:** To learn about the invertebrates which inhabit surrounding areas through making and decorating a bug box and by creating shape poems.

**Activities:** Students will explore the local area searching for and drawing invertebrates, learning about their importance for biodiversity, their life cycles, food chains and adaptation. Students will then complete and decorate bug boxes to take back to school, and will create shape poems based on the invertebrates they have seen/ learned about.

The groups will decorate 8 bug boxes (approximately) to take back with them.

Schedule		
	Joe	Rowena
9.15 - 10.15	Arrival, introductions, health & safety & minibeast hunt outside	
10.15- 10.30	Conclude outside, move inside, prepare for next activity	
10.30 - 10.45	Plenary, minibeast picture show and Q & A	
10.45 - 11.15	Decorate bug box (grp 1)	Creative writing (grp 2)
11.15 - 11.45	Decorate bug box (grp 2)	Creative writing (grp 1)
11.45 - 12.00	Pack up, finish & depart	

## Water Worlds

Cost	£400 plus VAT (payable in advance)
Where	Hemlington Hall Farm & lake (indoors onsite if wet)
Time	Arrive for 9.15am start – depart 12noon
Group size	Max. 30 students with a min. of 2 supporting adults to be divided into 2 groups
TVA Personnel	Rowena Sommerville, Director Joe Dunne, Heritage & Environment Officer

**Aim:** To find out what creatures live in and use the lake, and what value the lake has for wildlife and biodiversity; students will then use traditional and experimental watercolour techniques and the creation of Haiku poems to make their own water world artworks.

**Activities:** Students will explore what lives in the lake by identifying and recording what they find during a pond dipping exercise, and will consider what creatures live on and near the water. They will hear about the life cycles and food chains of creatures that are identified, and how certain species have adapted to their surroundings. They will be introduced to water colour painting techniques to depict what flora and fauna they have seen. The creative writing activities will introduce the Haiku form and the counting of syllables.

### Schedule

	Joe	Rowena
9.15 - 10.15	Arrival, introductions, health & safety, walk around lake and start pond dipping	
10.15- 10.30	Conclude outside, move inside, prepare for next activity	
10.30 - 10.45	Plenary, water worlds picture show and Q & A	
10.45 - 11.15	Water colour (grp 1)	Creative writing (grp 2)
11.15 - 11.45	Water colour (grp 2)	Creative writing (grp 1)
11.45 - 12.00	Pack up, finish & depart	





## Trees and clay tile making

Cost	£200 plus VAT (payable in advance)
Where	Hemlington Hall Farm & lake (indoors onsite if wet)
Time	Arrive for 9.15am start – depart 12noon
Group size	Max. 30 students with a min. of 2 supporting adults
TVA Personnel	Joe Dunne, Heritage & Environment Officer

**Aim:** To learn about trees, their importance to our environment and how to identify them; students will learn clay-working skill and will create their own clay tile.

**Activities:** Students will learn about the trees in the local area, their importance locally and globally, and how to identify them. Then through working with clay, students will create their own shallow relief tiles/ models related to what they have learnt. Tiles may be taken back to school and could then be combined to create a larger scale clay tile mosaic.

Each student will take small clay models back to school for drying out.

### Schedule

9.15 - 10.15	Arrival, introductions, health & safety and walk around the area, and meet the trees (!)
10.15- 10.30	Conclude outside, move inside, prepare for next activity
10.30 - 10.45	Plenary, trees picture show and Q & A
10.45 - 11.15	Clay working techniques
11.15 - 11.45	Making clay tiles
11.45 - 12.00	Pack up, finish & depart



## Land Art

Cost	£200 plus VAT (payable in advance)
Where	Hemlington Hall Farm & lake (indoors onsite if wet)
Time	Arrive for 9.15am start – depart 12noon
Group size	Max. 30 students with a min. of 2 supporting adults to be divided into 2 groups
TVA Personnel	Joe Dunne, Heritage & Environment Officer

**Aim:** To learn about the local natural environment through willow weaving and larger scale outdoor drawing with natural materials; an introduction to land art

**Activities:** Students will explore and identify the artistic side of nature by looking at natural shapes, textures and contours, and will learn about what they see and find, what flora and fauna are on this site, how do they shape the land, what do we see, how can we interact with it creatively and without damage etc. They will then have a short introduction to land art (through an illustrated talk). Then groups will create their own land art using willow weaving and large scale drawing with natural materials, based on what they have experienced.

## Schedule

9.15 - 10.15	Arrival, introductions, health & safety and walk around the area
10.15- 10.30	Conclude outside, move inside, prepare for next activity
10.30 - 10.45	Plenary, land art picture show and Q & A
10.45 - 11.15	Willow weaving
11.15 - 11.45	Land art (in two groups)
11.45 - 12.00	Pack up, finish & depart



**Tees Valley Arts** works in partnership with the Tees Valley local authorities, with national and regional bodies, with numerous voluntary sector agencies, with environmental groups, with community groups and with schools to design and deliver projects.

**Tees Valley Arts** offers 'off the shelf' activities for schools; some are outlined in this leaflet, others are described on our website: [www.teesvalleyarts.org.uk](http://www.teesvalleyarts.org.uk)

**Tees Valley Arts** can also work with you to develop 'bespoke' projects, tailored to your situation, your desired outcomes and your budget.



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