

Online “Meet the Mill Workers” (Free of charge)

Transport yourself back in time to 1797 – Sir Richard has been dead for the last five years and the mills are now under the management of Richard Arkwright Junior. Our online offer is a great way to introduce Cromford Mills to your pupils and immerse yourself in its history, ready for a visit to the site in the future.

Meet the Mill Workers: Life in Cromford Mills <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P1tSdedwmeE>



Meet Mrs Froggott and Mrs Henstock, both workers at Sir Richard Arkwright’s Cromford Mills. Catch up with them throughout the working day, and hear about:

- Life at the mill: Early mornings, fines for bad behaviour, and the benefits of having Mr Arkwright as your employer.
- The different jobs children do at the mill – from the scavengers to the scutchers, the pickers to the piecers.
- The amazing watercourses that operate the waterwheels and power the machinery inside the mills.

Meet the Mill Workers: Life in Cromford Village <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cwfMTBwdMDE>



Take a walk with Mrs Froggott and Mrs Henstock around Cromford village. Learn more about what it is like to live there as a mill worker. Keep an eye out for:

- St Mary’s Church
- Willersley Castle (Mr Arkwright’s home)
- The Market Place and Greyhound Hotel
- The houses on North Street – and the allotments behind!

In school or at home follow up activities:



Simeon's Wages

Simeon works at the mill. Every week, he gets paid 10 shillings, unless he is fined for breaking the rules. 1 shilling (1s) = 12 pence (12d).

Simeon works hard in the mill but sometimes he gets into trouble! Use the list of rules and fines to work out how much money he gets paid at the end of the week.



- Make your own Cromford Diorama – we will send you downloadable instructions to make your own Cromford Mills scene.
- There are lots of activities to download and try from the Cromford Mills website <https://www.cromfordmills.org.uk/learning-home>
- There are videos on the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site (DVMWHS) website showing how to do lots of simple crafts linked to the mills <http://www.derwentvalleymills.org/discover/learning-for-all/learning-families/derwent-valley-mills-at-home/crafting-at-home/>
- You can watch the ‘The Story of the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site’ Children’s film here: <https://www.derwentvalleymills.org/discover/learning-for-all/learning-schools/teaching-resources/childrens-guide/> If you would like hard copies of the booklet for your children to keep, please contact the DVMWHS central coordinating team at info@derwentvalleymills.org

To book, or for more information, please contact Eleanor: egunn@arkwrightsociety.org.uk; 01629 343058 (direct line).

Online “Ask the Mill Workers” (Price: £30 per class)

If you can't get out to visit us, we will do our best to bring the mill to you! We will lend you a box full of resources to help your pupils experience the history of the mills hands-on, with a guidance video to help. We will also organise an online Q&A session with either Mrs Froggott or Mrs Henstock. This is an hour-long session for a maximum of 2 classes, or you can split it so each class has a half hour slot.

Textile processes film

Our mill workers will show you how things used to be done by hand before the amazing machinery and factory processes introduced by Mr Arkwright. This will include:



- Carding
- Stick weaving
- Signing your indenture

Loan box

You can keep the box for two weeks for your children to have a go at the activities. We will deliver the box to Derbyshire schools via the Derbyshire County Council Schools area mail, and they can send it back the same way. For schools in Derby city or elsewhere, you will need to collect the box from Cromford Mills, Mill Lane, Cromford, DE4 3RQ. It will include the following:



- 4 children's mill worker costumes to dress up in.
- 5 sets of stick weaving kits
- 2 sets of cotton hand carding (and some cotton to card)
- Ink, 5 dip pens and 'indentures' to sign to become an apprentice at Cromford Mills.

“Ask the Mill Workers” live session

One of our modern-day mill team will set up a time travelling virtual meeting for your class. Using either Zoom or MS Teams your pupils will be able to ask their questions live to either Mrs Froggott or Mrs Henstock (depending who isn't on duty in the mill that day!) and find out more about Cromford Mills, part of the important Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site.

To book, or for more information, please contact Eleanor (egunn@arkwrightsociety.org.uk; 01629 343058) with the following details:

- A preferred start date for your fortnight of having the loan box.
- At least four preferred dates or times for the 'Ask the Mill Worker' Q&A session.
- Whether you wish us to set up a MS Teams or Zoom meeting link for you to send to your pupils or whether you prefer to send us a link to access your school's 'live lesson link' and what software this will use.
- Where in your project or topic the 'Ask the Mill Worker' session is happening – beginning, middle or end.
- What your curriculum or topic focus is so we can tailor any specific information to share whilst in character with the children.