

Who was Sir Richard Arkwright? KS1

Who was this famous man, what did he do in Cromford and how did he change the world?

Led by an expert guide, enjoy a fully led and resourced exploration of Cromford Mills and the village of Cromford. This enquiry-based day will allow your class to use a variety of source material (including paintings, artefacts and a CGI audio visual experience that brings Richard Arkwright to life) to build up a picture of this significant individual from history and find out how he became known as the 'Father of the Factory System'.

Pre and post visit activities

This programme is designed to fit in with wherever you are in your sequence of learning. For additional ideas and resources to support your learning please follow this link <https://www.cromfordmills.org.uk/primary-school> or look on the Cromford Mills website and follow the link through 'Learning' where you will find a downloadable collection of pdf documents.

This is what your day with us could look like:

9.30 15 mins	Arrival and welcome to Cromford Mills – introduction and safety briefing Your guide will meet you off the coach and take you to the Education Room, your base for the day.
9.45 25 mins	History Detectives - who is this man? Your class will be shown a portrait painting of Richard Arkwright. Children are supported to look for clues in the painting about this historically significant man – <i>Who was he? What did he do? What sort of person was he? When did he live?</i>
10.10 15 mins	Meet the Man The children will meet Sir Richard Arkwright himself in the ruins of the first mill, through the magic of CGI!
10.25 15 mins	Break
10.40 15 mins	Georgian costumes Your class can dress up as Georgian mill workers for the mill tour (very popular).
10.55 30 mins	What is this shirt made from? Using objects and artefacts, children will be introduced to the process of cotton production and how it was changed forever by Sir Richard Arkwright here at Cromford Mills.
11.25 50 mins	Cromford Mills Time Travellers Tour Your guide will show your class the key features of the mill site including the sites of the old water wheels and our brand-new wheel, Richard Arkwright's house, the pack horse bridge, the ruins of the second mill and the workers' entrance. We stop off along the way to witness the waterframe - Arkwright's world-famous cotton-spinning machine - in the Visitor's Centre. Finally we return to the education room, to take off the costumes.
12.15 30 mins	Lunch – in the Education Room, or in nice weather classes can picnic in the mill yard
12.45 1 hr 15 mins	What was it like for the people who lived in Cromford in the past? Using old photos and extracts from the novel <i>Scavenger Boy</i> , we will explore key sites in Cromford village including North Street, the marketplace, and the lock up, to learn how Richard Arkwright changed the lives of people who came to work for him.
2.00 15 mins	What became of this great man from history? We will conclude the day at St Mary's Church, where Sir Richard Arkwright is buried.
2.15 15 mins	What do we know about Sir Richard Arkwright? Your class can record their findings using key words and phrases, before preparing to leave.
2.30	Depart Cromford Mills

Please contact our learning & engagement officers if you would like more information, or to book a visit and/or pre-visit: learning@arkwrightsociety.org.uk; 01629 343058/53 (direct lines)