INFORMATION FOR TEACHERS
TAUGHT SESSION 5

Key stages: 1, 2 and 3
National Curriculum Subject Areas: Science, Maths, Design & Technology, History, Art and Design
Length of Session: 1 hour 30 min
Maximum group size: 32 pupils

WONDERFUL WEAVES AND FANTASTIC FABRICS

Session outline:
Children will learn about woven fabrics and their properties through handling different types of materials, historic artefacts and creating their own woven sample.

Activity 1: Fantastic Fabrics
Children will be given some fabric samples. We will talk about how they might be used and how they might be made. They will then be given some raw materials and some threads. Children will be asked to see if they can match these to the fabric samples.

Activity 2: Object Handling
This activity will look at weaving, what it is and how it is done. Handling collections include historic loom equipment and silk samples. Weaving will be demonstrated with our replica loom. We will discuss the difference between woven fabrics and other fabrics.

Activity 3: Wonderful Weaves
Children will then have a chance to create their own small woven sample using a card loom.

Learning Outcomes:
- Engage with historic artefacts
- Improve speaking and listening skills
- Gain an understanding of different types of fabric, their properties and how they are made
- Gain an understanding of the Huguenot contribution to fabric making
- Create a small woven sample

This session is available all year round Tuesday – Saturday please go to www.huguenotmuseum.org/learning for more information on how to book.
WONDERFUL WEAVES AND FANTASTIC FABRICS

Suggested pre visit activities:
- Discuss fabrics – what is a fabric? Where do we use fabrics today? How many different types of fabric can you name/are you wearing?
- Introduce the concept that different materials have different properties – what is a property? Name different properties

Suggested post visit activities:
- Research other types of fabric (felt, knitted etc)
- Have a go at creating a piece of felt or a knitted sample
- Learn about the life cycle of a silk worm
- Have a go at weaving using other materials (paper, plants)
- Learn more about the history of weaving in England
- Learn about patterns that are used on woven fabrics

For older age groups:
- Research the history of weaving in London – what were conditions like for weavers? Use historic sources to find out more information
- Look at the science behind the properties of wool, silk and cotton
- Create your own synthetic fibre! (e.g. Rayon)