

For this activity we are going to focus on built heritage. We are often more likely to visit places and explore history and heritage when we are on holiday in other parts of the country or even abroad but we can all find lots of places to explore in our local area and lots of exciting stories to uncover. Why not be a tourist in your local area and see what you can discover?

There are a few simple steps you can take to explore heritage in your local area.

Step 1: Look Around

Take a walk, a cycle or a drive and see what you can see. You may see old stone bridges, castles, forts, holy wells, old mills, locks or other features.



Step 2: Ask Questions

What is it?

Who built it?

Why is it here?

When was it built?

Where can I find out more?

Step 3: Find Answers

- Look at maps of the area in print or online.
- Look for information boards at the site.
- Ask older local people what they know.
- Use books and tourism leaflets to do some research.



Step 4: Research it Online

There are lots of websites where you can find information. Just make sure to ask an adult before going online to research. Here are some to get you started:

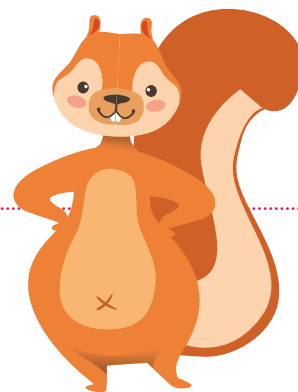
- heritageinschools.ie has some online tutorials to help you get started.
- osi.ie has the Geohive portal which allows you to look at historical maps.
- duchas.ie has stories about your local area written by school children in the 1930s.
- heritagemaps.ie has an interactive map that shows heritage information throughout Ireland.
- archaeology.ie has lists of National Monuments.



Step 5: Record it

Make your own record of what you find out. These are some suggestions:

- Draw a map of a heritage site in your area.
- Photograph it and write about it.
- Sketch it, paint it, or model it with clay.
- Make it with natural materials or craft it with cardboard.
- Build it with bricks.



The Heritage Council have a Lego® Brick Heritage competition running until August 30th 2020.

See details at heritagecouncil.ie

COVID-19: It is important to stay up to date as social distancing guidelines may change over time. The most up to date advice, information and resources can be found on: www.hse.ie and www.health.gov.ie

Nature on Your Doorstep challenge sheet brought to you by Carlow Sports Partnership in collaboration with Wildways Adventures