



ENGLISH HERITAGE
EDUCATION

OUTDOOR LEARNING KIT

Audley End House and Gardens

This kit helps teachers plan a visit to the gardens at Audley End. Use these resources before, during and after your visit to help students get the most out of their outdoor learning experience.

KS1-2

KS3

KS4+



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Step into England's story

WELCOME

This Outdoor Learning Kit has been designed for teachers and group leaders to support a free self-led visit to Audley End House and Gardens. It includes a variety of materials suited to teaching a wide range of subjects and key stages, with practical information, activities for use in the gardens and ideas to support follow-up learning.

We know that each class and study group is different, so we have collated our resources into one kit allowing you to decide which materials are best suited to your needs. Please use the contents page, which has been colour-coded to help you easily locate what you need and view individual sections. All of our activities have clear guidance on the intended use for study so you can adapt them for your desired learning outcomes.

To further aid your planning, we have created Hazard Information guidance, which you can download from the Audley End House and Gardens **Schools page**. Here you can also find information on our expert-led Discovery Visits and an overview of what your class can experience. You can find more practical information about your booked visit to Audley End House and Gardens in the Education Visit Permit and the Site Information Pack which have been sent to you.

We hope you enjoy your visit and find this Outdoor Learning Kit useful. If you have any queries please don't hesitate to get in touch with a member of our team either via bookeducation@english-heritage.org.uk or on 0370 333 0606.

English Heritage Learning Team

ICON KEY

The icons below will help you quickly identify the types of activities and information presented.

						
						
VIDEO	HANDS ON	LOOK	LISTEN	SMELL	WRITE	READ
						
CHALLENGE	DID YOU KNOW?	MAP	QUOTE	EXAMINE	ART	

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KSI-2

KS3

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PRE-VISIT

Information and activities you can use in the classroom before your visit.

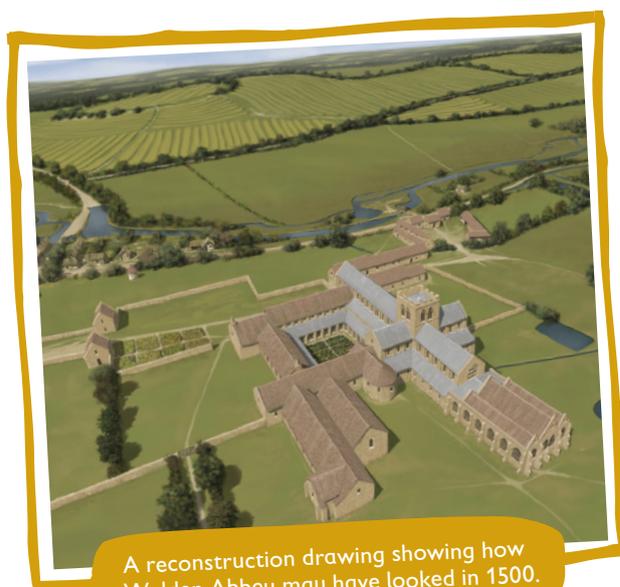
HISTORICAL INFORMATION

DISCOVER THE STORY OF
AUDLEY END HOUSE AND
GARDENS

Below is a short history of Audley End House and Gardens. Use this information to learn how the site has changed over time. You'll find the definitions of the key words in the Glossary.

NORMAN WALDEN ABBEY

The De Mandeville family, **earls** of Essex, took possession of the manor of Walden after the **Norman Conquest**. They built a castle there from 1141-1143, and a market nearby in 1141. The town of Saffron Walden developed around these. A **Benedictine priory** was built on Walden land near the river Cam in 1139 and was given **abbey** status by King Richard I (r.1189–99) in 1190. *The Book of the Foundation of Walden Abbey* (written in about 1203) details the struggles to establish the priory. The abbey church was largely complete by 1250, and the east end of the church was rebuilt and extended in about 1500.



A reconstruction drawing showing how Walden Abbey may have looked in 1500.

SAFFRON WALDEN



Saffron Walden's town crest. It shows saffron in a walled-in garden.

Saffron Walden developed around the castle and the abbey, and is a short distance from where Audley End stands today. The town was originally known as 'chepyng' or 'market' Walden. It was given the name Saffron Walden in the 1540s.

Saffron is a spice and dye that comes from a crocus flower, *Crocus Sativus*, and it is the most expensive spice in the world in terms of cost per gram. In supermarkets in the UK in 2021, saffron can cost £2.50 for 0.4 grams. Other spices cost about £1 for 40-50 grams.

Saffron originally grew around the Mediterranean, but in the 16th and 17th centuries, saffron was

widely grown in Chepyng Walden's favourable soil and climate. Now that the spice could be grown in Britain it became much more affordable, but it was still considered a luxury good. The saffron-growing industry was a major success in the town, so successful, that the town changed its name to Saffron Walden to reflect the importance of the saffron trade.



Saffron stems ready to be used in cooking or dyeing. © Salonik

TUDOR AUDLEY END

Walden Abbey was dissolved by King Henry VIII (r.1509–47) during the **Suppression of the Monasteries** in 1538.

The abbey and its land were given to **Sir** Thomas Audley, a lawyer who had been appointed **Lord Chancellor** in 1533 and had confirmed the divorce of the king from his first wife, Catherine of Aragon. He built a large mansion house by adapting the monastic buildings and called it Audley Inn.

When Sir Thomas Audley died in 1544, his four year old daughter, Margaret, inherited Audley Inn. Margaret married twice; her first husband was Henry Dudley who died in 1556. Her second marriage was to Thomas Howard, 4th **Duke** of Norfolk, in 1558. Queen Elizabeth I (r.1558–1603) visited Audley Inn in 1571 and 1578.

In 1572 the duke was executed for conspiring against Elizabeth I. His second son, also called Thomas, restored the family reputation by commanding a ship in the fleet that defeated the **Spanish Armada**. He was knighted for his bravery.

THE JACOBAN HOUSE

King James I (r.1603–25) made Thomas Howard 1st Earl of Suffolk and appointed him **Lord Chamberlain** of the royal household. To reflect this new-found status, around 1605, Thomas demolished Audley Inn and began work on a huge new house and impressive gardens. The new house was called Audley End.

During a **royal 'progress'**, the court moved between grand houses each spring and summer. Leading subjects tried to outdo each other in providing the best accommodation. Thomas Howard developed Audley End to include state apartments for King James I and Queen Anne. It was a palace in all but name. In 1614, Thomas Howard became **Lord Treasurer** and King James I visited Audley End, apparently commenting that it was 'too great for a king but might suit a Lord Treasurer'. Howard's royal favour came to an end in 1619, when he and his wife were found guilty of corruption and bribery, and were banished from court back to Audley End in disgrace. He died in 1626, leaving large debts.

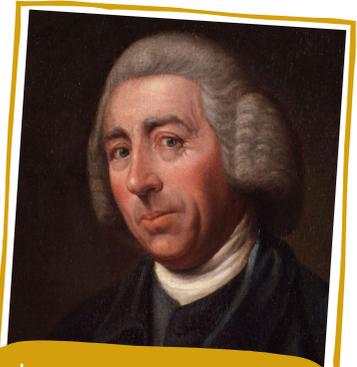
AUDLEY END IS SAVED FROM RUIN

Audley End attracted the attention of King Charles II (r.1660–85) as it was close to Newmarket races, and he bought it in 1667 for £50,000, which would be over £12,000,000 today. But the house was beginning to look old-fashioned and its condition was deteriorating. After 1670, neither King Charles II nor his successors made much use of it.

King William III (r.1689–1702) returned the house to the Howard family in 1701, and over the next 50 years the house was drastically reduced in size.

When the last of the Howards died in 1605 the estate was divided among a number of beneficiaries, one of whom was Elizabeth, **Countess** of Portsmouth. The survival of Audley End was thanks to her buying the house and gardens in 1751, and adding it to her existing share of the estate. She repaired and remodelled the house in a **Jacobean** style, and some of the furnishings seen at Audley End today belonged to her.

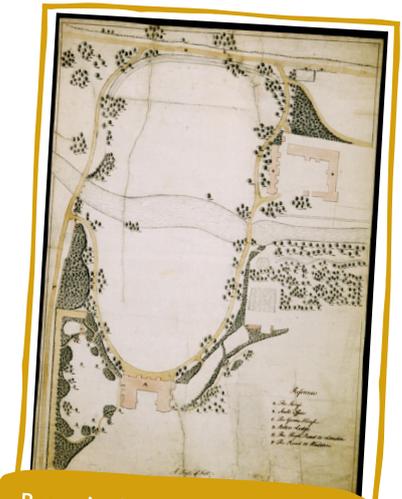
Her nephew and **heir**, Sir John Griffin Whitwell, inherited Audley End in 1762, but only after fulfilling his aunt's condition that he change his coat of arms and name to Sir John Griffin Griffin. Sir John quickly sought advice from the leading **architect, Robert Adam**, and garden designer **Lancelot 'Capability' Brown**. With their assistance, he and his second wife, Katherine, continued the improvement of the house and park in the latest fashionable taste.



Lancelot 'Capability' Brown by Nathaniel Dance (later Sir Nathaniel Holland, Bt), circa 1769. ©NPG

CAPABILITY BROWN AND THE GARDEN

The improvements Capability Brown made to the landscape at Audley End were extensive, and his plans included sweeping away the formal gardens that had been laid out by Thomas Howard, widening and changing the course of the river Cam and creating a ha-ha (a sunken wall). Brown was told to make the river 'at least a hundred foot wide and four feet deep in water, to begin at the bridge near the stable office and end at the intended bridge on the Walden Road'. Brown had trouble realigning the river, which led to a delay in him being paid for his work.



Brown's plan to change the course of the river, which caused an argument with Sir John.

The grounds and garden were not as complicated to work on as the river was. Sir John supplied the trees and **shrubs** for the grounds through his **nurseryman**. Brown and his team also 'sowed with grass seeds and Dutch clover or lay with turf all the parts of the grounds which is to be altered should any of that grass or turf fail to make it good'. Dutch clover can be used to add **nutrients** to soil to make it more fertile, and it can be used to attract bees and other **pollinators**.

Lady Griffin's garden, to the north of the house, was more formal with flower beds compared with the sweeping lawns and clumps of trees Brown introduced elsewhere.

According to the contract for the work on the garden, Brown was to be paid in instalments; he was to be paid £200 in June 1763, a further £200 in September 1763 and £260 when the work was finished. The £660 total would come to nearly £132,000 in today's money. There was a dispute between Brown and Sir John about payments, probably due to the delays in completing the work. In 1767 Sir John made a further payment of just over £268, which would be about £45,000 today. With the delays and disputes, bad feelings arose between Brown and Sir John, with Brown writing in 1768 that he would 'never labour more to convince Sir John as he knows there is none so blind as him that will not see'. When Brown left Audley End, he was replaced with a foreman called Hicks, who carried on the work.



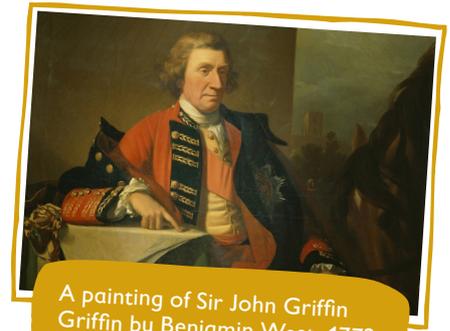
Lancelot 'Capability' Brown by Nathaniel Dance (later Sir Nathaniel Holland, Bt), circa 1769. ©NPG

Discover more about Lancelot 'Capability' Brown and his work on the English Heritage website: blog.english-heritage.org.uk/capability-brown-the-man-who-changed-english-landscapes-forever



INVENTION AND INNOVATION AT AUDLEY END

Sir John Griffin Griffin made sure that Audley End was well ahead of its time by installing lots of cutting-edge technology. He installed an innovative water system as part of his renovations to the house as well as the latest in flushing toilets in 1775, designed by the engineer Joseph Bramah. Sir John Griffin Griffin also led the way when it came to lighting the house, installing **Argand lamps** in the late 1800s, which produced as much light as 10 candles. Sir John also introduced a service bell system from the 1760s to summon staff to certain rooms of the house. Some parts of the bell system still survive today.



A painting of Sir John Griffin Griffin by Benjamin West, 1772.

When Sir John Griffin Griffin died in 1797, his heirs made fewer improvements to Audley End. Richard Neville, 2nd Lord Braybrooke, updated the heating of the mansion by installing new stoves. When the 3rd **Baron** Braybrooke moved to Audley End after his marriage in 1820, he started a new phase of improvements, updating the heating and water supply systems. His efforts can still be seen today and were continued by his son, the 5th Baron. It was only when money ran short in the 1880s that development came to a halt again.

AUDLEY END UNDER THE BRAYBROOKES

In 1788 Sir John Griffin Griffin (now Lord Howard de Walden) was created 1st Baron Braybrooke on the understanding that this title would pass to his chosen heir, Richard Neville, a descendant of Lady Portsmouth. Richard came to Audley End as a widower with seven children. His eldest son, also Richard, became the 3rd Baron Braybrooke and on inheriting Audley End in 1825 he wanted to restore the Jacobean character of the house. He researched the importance of Audley End's architecture, and in 1836 published his findings in a book called *The History of Audley End and Saffron Walden*.

Two of his sons died in the **Crimean War**, but the three surviving sons succeeded as 4th, 5th and 6th Barons Braybrooke between 1858 and 1902.

Richard Cornwallis Neville, 4th Lord Braybrooke, suffered from ill health and put his energy into gathering a huge **natural history** and **archaeology** collection, which he displayed at Audley End. The natural history collection can still be seen in the house today, which is displayed as it would have appeared in 1881.



The natural history display at Audley End today looks the same as it did in 1881.

THE BRAYBROOKES AND THE GARDENS AT AUDLEY END

As well as restoring the house, the Braybrookes redesigned the gardens at Audley End. In the 1830s, Lord Braybrooke commissioned a fashionable garden designer named William Gilpin to work on a formal parterre (a flower garden) on the east side of the house. By this time, the Elysian Garden, laid out in the 1780s by Richard Wood and Placido Columbani, with an informal flower garden, a cascade, tea house bridge and Turkish tent, had fallen into decline.

Gilpin was not trained as a landscape designer; his career up until his 60s, was as an artist. He specialised in watercolours and taught as a drawing master from 1806 to 1820 at the Royal Military College. He used his skills as an artist to design gardens. He favoured curved shapes in his designs for flower beds and paths as well as using irregularly placed shrubberies and raised terraced walks.



'A Coastal Scene', a painting by William Gilpin, created around 1843. © Trustees of the British Museum

ARTISTIC AUDLEY IN THE TWENTIETH CENTURY

Henry Neville, 7th Lord Braybrooke, who inherited in 1904, decided not to live at Audley End and instead leased it to Thomas Ellis, 8th Baron Howard de Walden, a distant relation. Thomas inherited a huge fortune, aged 19, and set about making Audley End a grand venue for country house parties. He loved the arts, and became engaged to Margherita van Raalte, a trained singer. She was convinced the house was haunted and, after their marriage in 1912, the couple left to live at Chirk Castle in Denbighshire. Henry Neville, 7th Lord Braybrooke, returned to his ancestral home with his wife and children in 1914, and died there in 1941.



Audley End today.

A SECRET WARTIME PAST

Between 1942 and 1944, Audley End was used by the government as the headquarters of the Polish Section of the Special Operations Executive (SOE) during the Second World War (1939–45).

Polish soldiers trained to become undercover agents, known as ‘Cichociemni’ which means the ‘silent unseen.’ Physical fitness was important for the trainees, so Captain Mack, whose full name was Alfons Maćkowiak, one of the instructors, set up an assault course in the wooded area north-west of the house, including a challenging rope crossing over the river Cam.

The soldiers also trained with more everyday sports like swimming in the lake, and playing volleyball, and football and tennis.

Alongside this gruelling physical training, the SOE soldiers also had lessons in fieldcraft (how to observe the enemy without being detected) in the grounds, and sabotage (disrupting the enemy). They were also taught silent killing, radio communication, target practice in the woods and had to go out on raiding parties into the local countryside. For one mission they had to rob the local post office.

Audley End was used for operational training and dispatch. This is when the agents were given false identities, forged papers and clothes and taught about the current situation in Poland before they were sent out on a mission.

As many as 2,613 Polish Army servicemen volunteered for special operations training during the war, but only 606 completed the rigorous training course. At any one time, there were around 60–80 trainees at Audley End, and by the time the SOE left at the end of 1944, 527 agents had completed courses here.

Once training was complete, the agents were given false identities and dropped by parachute into their German-occupied home country. This was dangerous work: of the 315 men and one woman eventually dropped into Poland, 112 died.

Only a few pieces of evidence of the Cichociemni’s time at Audley End remain today. If you look carefully you can find a few lines of graffiti in the coal gallery candle store, and torn labels in the cellar where guns and ammunition were stored. There are remnants of a timetable in the former briefing room on the second floor. In the bedrooms, there are still nails in the walls that show where the officers would hang up pictures or maps.

Discover more about the Polish special agents at Audley End on the English Heritage website: [english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/audley-end-house-and-gardens/history-and-stories/polish-special-agents](https://www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/audley-end-house-and-gardens/history-and-stories/polish-special-agents)



THE GARDENS AT AUDLEY END

The gardens at Audley End are much more than decorative outside spaces. The grounds were used for recreation: for example, cricket was played on the front lawn. The grounds were also intended to be productive, as cows and deer grazed on the lawns. Audley's grounds were also training spaces for soldiers during the Second World War. There are different gardens at Audley, which all had specific functions.



Audley End's kitchen garden.

Kitchen Garden

The Kitchen Garden was used to grow food to be cooked in the kitchen. The gardeners would have grown fruit and vegetables for eating and herbs to flavour the food. The garden's special heated walls would provide extra protection for the plants from

predators and from the weather. They would help keep the warmth in the garden and create a **microclimate** to help the plants grow. The glasshouses and the hot walls meant that the gardeners could grow plants that usually required a warmer climate. In 1884 it was recorded that the Kitchen Garden produced exotic fruits like apricots, peaches, nectarines and even pineapples!

Pond Garden

The Pond Garden was built in 1865, with an otter lodge being added to the south pond around 1870. The lodge was a home for a family of otters; the first otter at Audley was brought over from Ireland by Lady Braybrooke in 1867. The otter was called Paddy and when they died they became part of the natural history collection on display in the house.

Elysian Garden

This garden is named after the Elysian Fields from Greek mythology, where it was said the souls of the virtuous and the heroic went after they died. The Elysian Garden was constructed in 1780s and has changed a lot since it was first planted.

Audley End was purchased by the government in 1948 and opened to the public. English Heritage has been looking after the house and gardens since 1984.



Audley End's Parterre as it looks today.

GLOSSARY

TRICKY TERMS AND
WHAT THEY MEAN

Below is a list of words you might come across while exploring Audley End House and Gardens. Use this Glossary to find out what they mean.

abbey – the buildings where a community of men or women live under religious vows, led by an abbot or abbess

annual – something that happens every year

arachnid – the name given to a group of creatures with eight legs and a body made of two parts

archaeology – the study of where and how people lived and the things they left behind, to find out about human history

architect – a person who designs buildings

Argand lamp – a type of oil lamp invented by Aimé Argand in 1780. These lamps would shine brighter than ordinary oil lamps.

bark – the hard outer covering of a tree or shrub

baron – a title given to the lowest order of British nobility, Barons are usually addressed as ‘Lord’

Benedictine priory – a small monastery or nunnery that is governed by a prior or prioress where the monks or nuns follow ‘The Rule of Saint Benedict’

biannual – something that happens every two years

branch – part of a tree or shrub that sticks out from the trunk, on which leaves and fruit grow

bulb – underground masses of food storage from which plants grow. Bulbs are planted under the soil and plants grow from them at certain times of year.



A spider is a type of arachnid.



Cichociemni – this means the ‘silent unseen’ in Polish. It was the name given to Polish soldiers trained to become undercover agents during the Second World War.

cocoon – a covering or case made by some creatures to protect themselves or their young as they develop into adults

coniferous – used to describe plants that bear cones and have evergreen leaves

countess – the wife or widow of a count or earl, or a woman holding the rank of count or earl in her own right

Crimean War (1853–56) – a war fought in the area of the Crimean peninsula (the northern coast of the Black Sea), between Russia and an alliance of Great Britain, France, Sardinia and Turkey

crustacean – the name given to a group of creatures with a tough, armour-like outer shell, a body made of segments and limbs that have joints

deciduous – used to describe a plant that drops its leaves at a certain point in the year, usually autumn

duke – a very high-ranking title in England, above ‘earl’ and below ‘prince’. It is the highest-ranking title outside the royal family.

earl – a title given to an English nobleman ranking above ‘lord’ and below ‘marquis’ or ‘duke’

evergreen – used to describe a plant that keeps its leaves and stays green all through the year

exoskeleton – a tough outer shell



A coniferous plant and its cone.

fungi – a group of simple organisms (living things) that are not plants, animals or bacteria, e.g. mushrooms and mould. They feed on organic matter and can be found everywhere.

gastropod – the name given to a group of creatures with a soft, flat-based body and a muscular ‘foot’ which they use to move around

habitat – the natural home of a plant, animal or other living thing

harvest – the act of cutting and collecting crops, fruit and vegetables

heir – a person who is legally entitled to inherit their family estates. In medieval times, only male children could be heirs, and the eldest son would have the first claim.

hibernate – the clever way some animals survive the cold winter weather by finding a safe space to curl up until warmer weather arrives. During hibernation, animals go into a deep sleep, barely breathe and allow their body temperatures to drop.

honeydew – the sugary waste secreted by aphids, which some butterflies feed on

invertebrate – a creature with no backbone. Some of these have tough skeletons on the outside of their bodies, called exoskeletons.

Jacobean – something relating to the time period between 1603 and 1625 when King James I ruled England

Lancelot ‘Capability’ Brown (1716–83) – a famous English landscape architect (a person who designs the look of outdoor spaces like parks and gardens) who particularly designed natural-looking landscape parks, and worked on Audley End in the 1760s

leaf – the flat part of a plant which grows from a stem or branch. Leaves help the plant absorb light.

Lord Chamberlain – the official in charge of the royal household

Lord Chancellor – an important royal official who was head of the judiciary (the judges in court) and keeper of the Great Seal used to sign royal documents. He was also the official in charge of the House of Lords in parliament.

Lord Treasurer – a senior official responsible for managing the royal treasury, where the king or queen kept their money, gold, silver and jewels

metamorphosis – the process by which a young plant or animal changes into its adult form, e.g. how caterpillars become butterflies

microclimate – the climate of a very small or restricted area, which may be different from the surrounding area

monarch – a supreme ruling head of state like a king or queen

native – a plant or animal that has always grown or lived in a certain place and wasn't brought there from anywhere else

natural history – the scientific study of plants and animals

nectar – the sweet, sugary liquid made by flowers

Norman Conquest
– the conquest of England by William of Normandy (William the Conqueror) after the Battle of Hastings in 1066



William the Conqueror

nurseryman – someone who works at a plant nursery, where plants are propagated and grown

nutrients – ingredients that are needed for healthy growth. Plants grow better in soil that is rich in nutrients.

perennial – a type of plant which lasts throughout the year or for many years

photosynthesis – the process by which plants turn carbon dioxide, water and sunlight into energy so that they can grow

pollen – a fine powder, often yellow, which the male part of the plant produces



Bees are one example of a pollinator.

pollinator – an insect that lands on plants, picking up pollen and moving it to other plants. This helps the pollen (from the male part of the plant) transfer to the female part of the plant, aiding in reproduction.

predator – an animal that hunts, kills and eats other animals

prey – an animal that is hunted, killed and eaten by other animals

Robert Adam (1728–92) – a Scottish architect (a person who designs buildings) and furniture designer who used a decorative style in his designs, and worked on Audley End in the 1760s

root – the part of the plant that attaches it to the ground, travelling into the soil to find water and nutrients, helping the plant to grow

royal progress – a tour of their kingdom by a monarch and their entourage (the group of important people accompanying them)

sap – the sticky fluid that circulates around a plant. You might see this sticky substance coming out of tree trunks and plant stems.

shrub – a woody plant which is smaller than a tree and has several small branches sticking out from a stem near the ground

Sir – used as a title before the forename of a knight or baronet



Spanish Galleon

Spanish Armada – the great fleet (a group of ships sailing together) sent by King Philip II of Spain (r.1556–98) to invade England in 1588. The Spanish Armada was defeated in the English Channel by the English fleet.

stem – the main, central bit of a plant from which the other parts of the plant (such as leaves or flowers) grow



Henry VIII

Suppression of the Monasteries (1536–40) – when the Roman Catholic Church refused to give King Henry VIII (r.1509–47) a divorce from his first wife, Catherine of Aragon, King Henry broke away and set up his own church in England, with the king as its spiritual head. King Henry then ordered over 800 monasteries be closed and either broken up for building materials, sold off or reclaimed for the Church of England.

trunk – the main, woody stem of a tree. The trunk gets wider every year so you can tell how old the tree is by the size of its trunk.

NORMANS
1066–1154

PLANTAGENETS
1154–1485

1066

William the Conqueror is victorious at the Battle of Hastings. The Norman Conquest of England begins.

1086

Domesday Book is completed.



1087

William dies. His son, William Rufus, is crowned King William II.

1000

1100



11TH CENTURY

1154

Henry II is crowned king of England.

1174

Scottish King William 'the Lion' is defeated and captured by the English at the Battle of Alnwick.

1139

A Benedictine priory is built on the manor land at Walden, close to the river Cam.

1140

Geoffrey de Mandeville is made Earl of Essex and builds a castle at Walden.

1141

Geoffrey starts a market near the castle, and the town of Saffron Walden develops around these.

1190

King Richard I upgrades the status of the priory to an abbey.

12TH CENTURY



1215

King John (r.1199–1216) signs Magna Carta at Runnymede. Soon afterwards the barons revolt against the king, aligning with Alexander, king of Scotland and Prince Louis of France, to try to remove King John.

1216

King John dies. His son, Henry III (r.1216–72), is crowned at nine years old.

1237

The Treaty of York means that the Scots abandon their rule of northern England. The Anglo-Scottish border line is drawn.

1200

1203

The Book of the Foundation of Walden Abbey is written about the struggle to set up the priory.

c.1250

The abbey church building is now finished.

1258

The abbey church is dedicated (made sacred) by Fulk, Bishop of London.

13TH CENTURY

1307

Edward I dies and his son, Edward II, becomes king.

1314

The English are defeated by the Scots at the Battle of Bannockburn.

1327

Edward II is forced to give up his crown. His son, Edward III, became king.

1377

Richard II is crowned king.

1300

1335–61

Humphrey de Bohun, 6th Earl of Hereford and 5th Earl of Essex, rebuilds the cloister of the abbey.

1373–1419

Joan, Countess of Hereford and widow of Humphrey de Bohun, 7th Earl of Hereford and 6th Earl of Essex, builds a new bell tower and gives the abbey a golden cross.



14TH CENTURY

TUDORS
1485–1603

STUARTS
1603–1714

1534

The Act of Supremacy recognises Henry VIII as head of the church in England. Pope Clement excommunicates Henry.

1585

England, ruled by Elizabeth I, declares war on Spain.

1588

English ships defeat the Spanish Armada.

1500

1538

Walden Abbey is dissolved by King Henry VIII and given to Sir Thomas Audley. He changes the abbey buildings into a mansion called Audley Inn.

1571 and 1578

Queen Elizabeth I visits Audley Inn.

1572

Sir Thomas Howard, 4th Duke of Norfolk, is executed for rebelling against Queen Elizabeth I.

1588

The Duke of Norfolk's second son, Thomas Howard, restores the family's reputation by fighting the Spanish Armada and is knighted by Queen Elizabeth I.

16TH CENTURY

1603

England makes peace with France and Spain following the union of English and Scottish Crowns under King James I (r.1603–25).

1642–49

The English Civil War between the king, Charles I (r.1625–51), and Parliament.



1649

Charles is tried, convicted and executed for high treason. The monarchy is abolished and the Commonwealth of England is declared.

1660

Charles II is crowned king of England, Scotland and Ireland as the monarchy is restored.

1600

1605

Thomas Howard, 1st Earl of Suffolk, begins work on a huge new house with royal apartments on the site of Audley Inn. The new house is called Audley End.

1614

King James I visits Audley End in January and July.



1626

Thomas Howard dies, leaving lots of unpaid debts.

1667

King Charles II buys Audley End – he likes it because it is close to the races at Newmarket.

17TH CENTURY

GEORGIANS

1714–1837

VICTORIANS

1837–1901

1775–83

The American War of Independence between Britain and its American colonies.

1789–99

The French Revolution leads to the end of the monarchy.

1793

Britain declares war with France.

1815

The Duke of Wellington defeats Napoleon at the Battle of Waterloo.

1700

1701–45

King William III returns Audley End to the Howard family in a poor state of repair. The house is reduced in size.

1751

Elizabeth, Countess of Portsmouth, inherits part of the estate and buys Audley End house. She repairs and updates the house.

1762

Elizabeth's nephew, Sir John Griffin Griffin, inherits Audley End, and employs fashionable architects and gardeners to remodel the house and grounds.



18TH CENTURY

1830–37

Reign of William IV.

1837–1901

Reign of Queen Victoria.



1800

1820

Richard Neville, soon to be 3rd Lord Braybrooke, moves into Audley End and restores the Jacobean character of the house. Much of his house can be seen today.

1836

The 3rd Lord Braybrooke publishes *The History of Audley End and Saffron Walden*.

1854

Henry Neville and Grey Neville, sons of the 3rd Lord Braybrooke, are killed during the Crimean War.

1858

Richard Cornwallis Neville, 4th Lord Braybrooke, inherits the estate. He builds up a natural history and archaeology collection and displays it at Audley End.

19TH CENTURY

20TH CENTURY
1900–99

21ST CENTURY
2000–PRESENT DAY

WW1
1914–18

WW2
1939–45

MODERN DAY

1910–36

Reign of George V.

20 January 1936 – 11 December 1936

Reign of Edward VIII. Edward abdicates the throne.

1910–36

Reign of George VI.

1952–2022

Reign of HRH Queen Elizabeth II.



1900

2000

1904–12

Audley End is leased to Thomas Ellis, 8th Lord Howard de Walden, who uses it for grand parties.

1914

Henry Neville, 7th Lord Braybrooke, returns to Audley End with his wife and family.

1942–44

In the Second World War, Audley End becomes a base for training secret agents in the Polish Section of the Special Operations Executive.

1948

Audley End is bought by the government, and opened up to the public.

1984

English Heritage starts looking after Audley End House and Gardens.

20TH CENTURY

2019

Britain leaves the European Union.

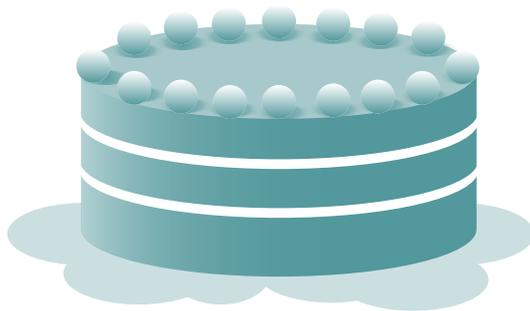
2020

The global coronavirus pandemic hits.



2018

Audley End's Victorian housekeeper, Mrs Crocombe, becomes a YouTube sensation following the release of a series of videos sharing Victorian recipes.



21ST CENTURY



SPOTTER SHEETS

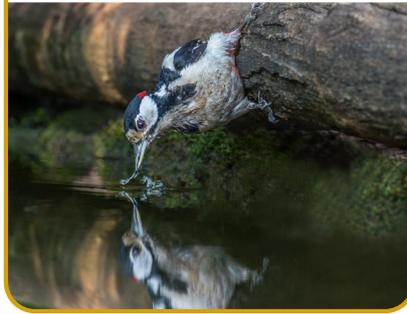
Visual checklists that can be used as stand-alone resources or as part of the ready-made garden activities provided in this kit.

These birds have made Audley End their home so please **be kind** to them!

FEEDING



DRINKING



PERCHING



HOPPING



ENGLISH HERITAGE
EDUCATION

BIRD BEHAVIOUR

SPOTTER SHEET

KSI

SWIMMING



NESTING



SINGING



DID YOU KNOW?

Birds have hollow bones that help them fly.

These creatures have made Audley End their home so please **be kind** to them!

DRAGONFLY



These have bigger eyes, different wing shapes and shorter, thicker bodies than damselflies.

MOTH



These are the less colourful cousins of butterflies and are most active at night.

DAMSELFLY



These fold their wings up when resting whereas dragonflies hold them out like an aeroplane.

HOVERFLY



Although they look like wasps, these insects are harmless flies and can't sting you.

ENGLISH HERITAGE
EDUCATION

FLYING MINIBEASTS

SPOTTER SHEET

KSI-2

LADYBIRD



These come in many colours and patterns but the most well-known is the seven-spot ladybird.

BUMBLEBEE



In their quest for pollen, these fuzzy bees scent-mark each flower they visit so they don't waste time going back to it again.

HONEY BEE



These honey-making bees will die if they use their sting, but bumblebees will not.

DID YOU KNOW?

Most flying minibeasts are great pollinators, meaning they visit flowers all around the garden, picking up and spreading **pollen**, causing more flowers to grow.

These creatures have made Audley End their home so please **be kind** to them!

GARDEN SNAIL



A snail is a gastropod, meaning it has a soft body with a flat base which it uses to move around.

EARTHWORM



Worms will eat just about anything as long as it's dead. They have no eyes and they breathe through their skin.

SPIDER



Spiders are arachnids, meaning they have eight legs and a body made of two parts.

APHID



These tiny insects have needle-like mouths for piercing and sucking sap from plants.

 ENGLISH HERITAGE
EDUCATION

CRAWLING MINIBEASTS

SPOTTER SHEET

KSI-2

CATERPILLAR



Caterpillars create cocoons around themselves and eventually come out as butterflies or moths. This is called metamorphosis.

WOODLOUSE



A woodlouse is a crustacean, meaning it has a tough outer shell and is related to lobsters and crabs.

CENTIPEDE



Most centipedes don't actually have 100 legs. They have two legs per body segment and they all grow to different lengths.

DID YOU KNOW?

These creatures are all **invertebrates**, meaning they don't have backbones.

You can **look** and **sniff**, but don't lick or pick!
This keeps you safe and protects the garden.

WATER LILIES



The roots of these plants need deep water but the leaves and flowers float on the surface. They provide essential shade for fish and other water life and help reduce the growth of algae.

PULHAMITE ROCKERY



Rockeries and rock features were very popular in the Victorian period. The rockery at Audley End is made of bricks that are covered in a type of cement that looks like natural rock.

FERNS



These plants love the shade and their leaves come in different shapes. Many of the leaves start life curled up and they slowly uncurl.

OTTER POND



In the 1860s this pond was built as a home for an otter called Paddy. Can you see the entrance to the otter's den or holt?

ENGLISH HERITAGE
EDUCATION

POND GARDEN SPOTTER SHEET

KSI-2

CIRCULAR FLOWER BEDS



There are 7 flower beds in this garden. They are cleverly designed so that from the bench that faces towards the rockery they all look the same size.

CLEMATIS



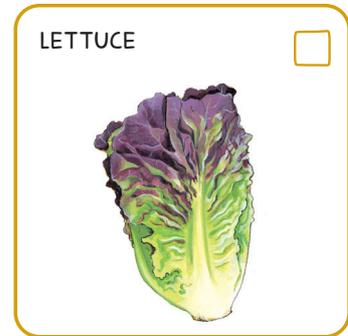
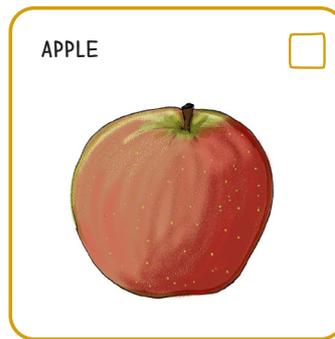
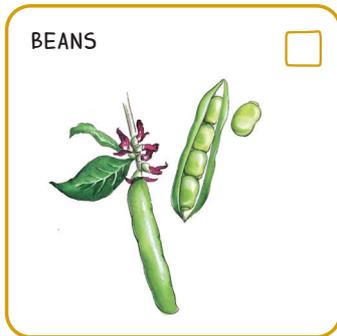
Clematis is a climbing plant and in this garden is on the walls and the metal framework over the river. They flower from summer to autumn and come in a wide range of colours.

SLUICE CHANNEL



The level of the river at Audley End is controlled by a set of sluice gates. The channel running down the side of this garden contains water that is being released from the river slowly. Can you hear the sound of running water?

You can **look** but don't touch! This keeps you safe and protects the kitchen garden.

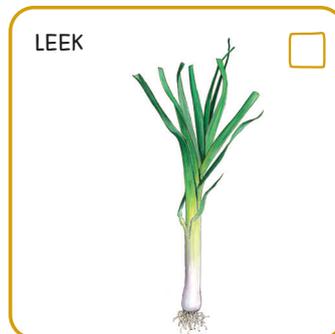
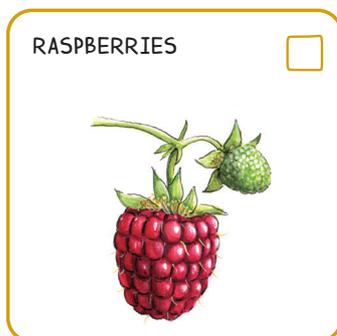
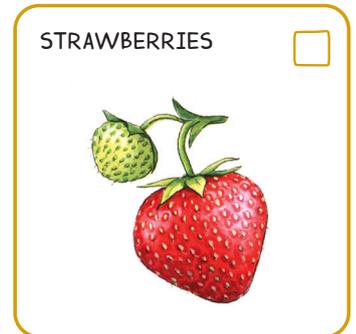
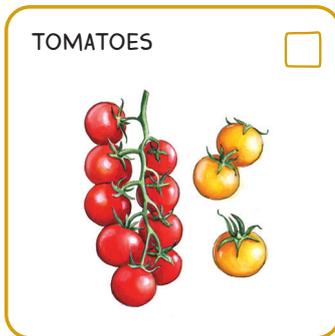


 ENGLISH HERITAGE
EDUCATION

KSI-2

**KITCHEN
GARDEN**

SPOTTER SHEET



Have a look around the garden and the greenhouse to see what else is growing.

You can **look** and **sniff**, but don't lick or pick!
This keeps you safe and protects the garden.

TEA HOUSE BRIDGE



Designed by Richard Wood in the 1780s, this bridge faces south and is a sunny spot for afternoon tea.

LONDON PLANES



There are lots of enormous trees in this part of the gardens. They are London planes and have bark that looks a bit like the skin of a snake.

IVY



This climbing evergreen plant can be damaging to trees but it provides food and shelter for wildlife.

RIVER



The river is the Cam and it runs all the way to Cambridge. There are water irises and other plants growing at the side of the river – these create a habitat for frogs, birds and other creatures.

 ENGLISH HERITAGE
EDUCATION

ELYSIAN GARDEN

SPOTTER SHEET

KSI-2

SWAMP CYPRESS



Standing in the back corner of the garden is a tree called a swamp cypress. Originating in the Everglades in Florida, the trees have roots that are adapted to cope with very wet conditions.

FLOWERING SHRUBS



The Elysian Garden was designed as a flower garden in the 1780s. Pink and white flowers with scent were in the borders all around the edge of the garden. Can you see any flowers today?

DETONATION CHAMBER



During the Second World War, all of the bridges at Audley End had detonation chambers fitted to them. This meant that if necessary the bridges could be blown up. Can you see the one in this part of the site?

EXTENSION ACTIVITY: PARTS OF A FLOWER



Petal

Attracts insects and other pollinators

Anther

Makes pollen

Stigma

Traps pollen

Filament

Provides support

Style

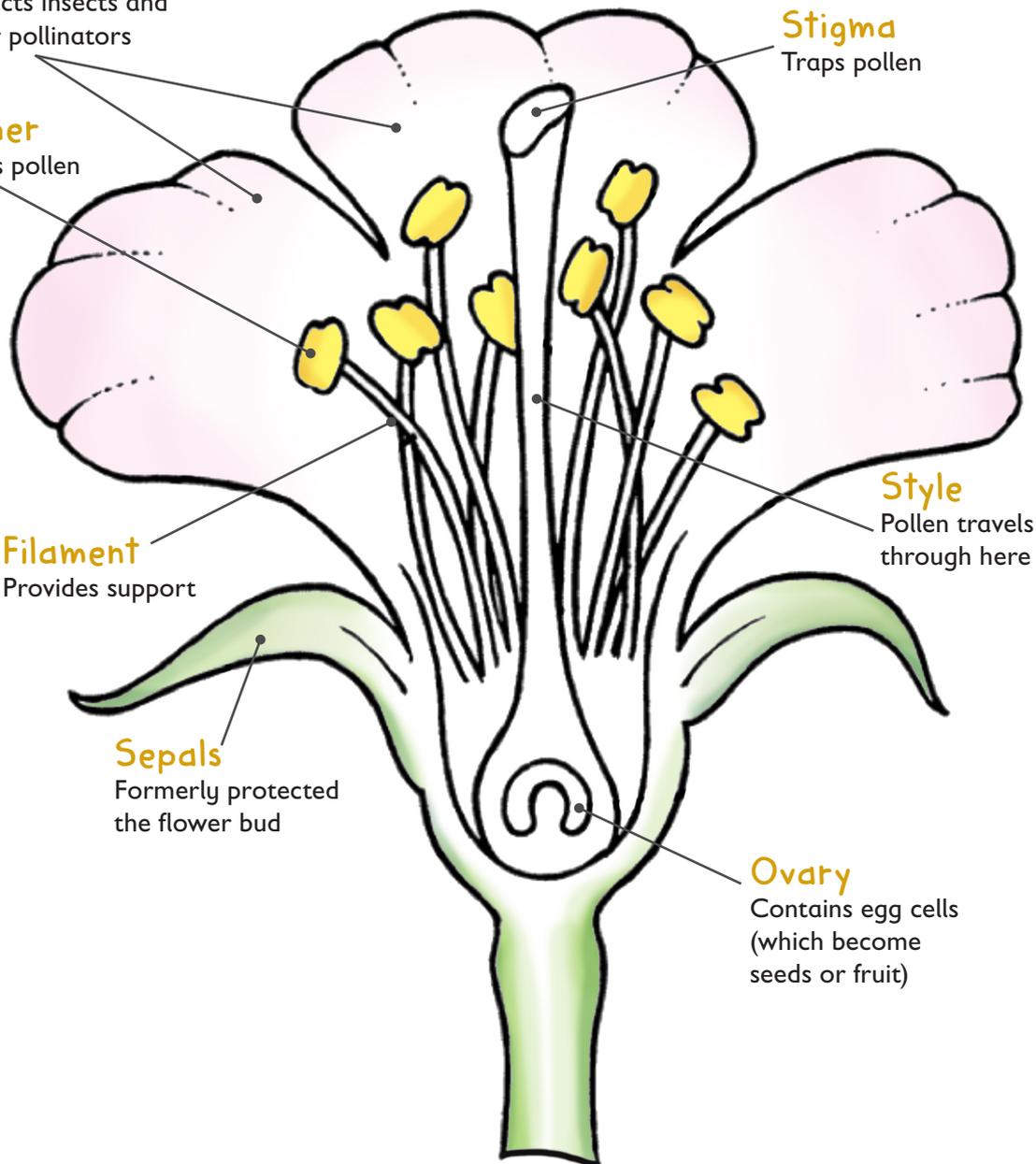
Pollen travels through here

Sepals

Formerly protected the flower bud

Ovary

Contains egg cells (which become seeds or fruit)



A diagram showing the different parts of a flower that it uses to reproduce.

Look at bit closer at the flowers you've found - can you identify the different parts of the flower?



AT AUDLEY END HOUSE AND GARDENS

Activities for students to do in the gardens at Audley End to help them get the most out of their learning.

SELF-LED ACTIVITY

THE GREAT OUTDOORS

KSI-2

Recommended for

KSI-2 (Biology, History)

Learning objectives

- Explore the different species of trees found at Audley End and their historical significance.
- Understand more about how and why the landscape and gardens were created at Audley End.

Time to complete

Approx. 75 minutes



You can see several London plane trees at Audley End.

SUMMARY

BEFORE YOUR VISIT

Watch the short film 'Postcard from Audley End House and Gardens' (0 min 57 sec) on English Heritage's YouTube channel.

Ask students to identify different types of outdoor spaces or structures seen in the film for example, bridges, fountains, trees, wide open grassland, ponds, planted beds.

The features now visible in the garden are largely the work of Lancelot 'Capability' Brown, commissioned in 1763 and 1764 by Sir John Griffin Griffin to refashion the garden into a more natural style. Capability Brown's design transformed the formal appearance that Thomas Howard, 1st Earl of Suffolk, created in the Jacobean period.

Use the teacher and student tree trail maps provided on the following pages to explore the landscape and gardens of Audley End through some of its special trees. You can find the Teacher Map on pages 33–34 and the Student Map on pages 35–36. Print the trail in colour as A4 double-sided, and select 'flip on short edge'.

You can choose to do the whole route (taking around 1 hour 15 minutes to complete) or just a section of it.

MORE LEARNING IDEAS

If your school has open space or a garden, use this for students to make their own map of the area and label it with key features. They can use the tree trail map as an example. Alternatively, find an aerial view of a garden or park nearby and use this as the basis to create a map.

TEACHERS' NOTES

AUDLEY END TREE TRAIL

Use this map and supporting information to facilitate discussion with your students as they follow the tree trail. The trail will take around 1 hour 15 minutes to walk. If you don't have time for the whole trail, it divides into smaller sections depending on your preferred location.

1. CEDAR OF LEBANON

(Latin name: *Cedrus libani*)

This tree was planted between 1763 and 1764, when the famous gardener Lancelot 'Capability' Brown was working at Audley End. The owner of Audley End at that time, Sir John Griffin Griffin, had this tree planted as part of a formal flower garden for his wife. **Where is it?** Looking at the front of the house, it's on the right-hand side.

2. COMMON LIME

(Latin name: *Tilia x europaea*)

Lime trees are often used at country houses like Audley End to make grand avenues (straight lines) of trees to impress visitors. They have sweet-smelling pale green flowers in spring that bees and insects love. **Where is it?** Beside the house on the right-hand side, near the brick wall. Look for two straight rows of trees.

3. HOWARD OAK

(Latin name: *Quercus x audleyensis*)

This is a very rare hybrid tree (thought to be a cross between a holm oak and a sessile oak). In autumn, some leaves turn brown and drop, but others stay green. It was planted in the late 1700s and is named after Thomas Howard, the owner who built the grand Jacobean house at Audley End. **Where is it?** Behind the house between the avenue of common limes and the house itself.

4. HORSE CHESTNUT

(Latin name: *Aesculus hippocastanum*)

These trees can grow up to 40 metres, and can live for up to 300 years. At Audley End, some have grown so large that their branches touch the ground. These branches have rooted and are forming a surrounding ring of smaller trees. **Where is it?** Behind the house, between the Howard Oak and the cedar of Lebanon.

5. WELLINGTONIA

(Latin name: *Sequoiadendron giganteum*)

This tree is called a redwood and was brought to Britain from California by a Victorian plant hunter named William Lobb. The tallest redwood in the world is in California and measures 95 metres. The name Wellingtonia was created to remember the Duke of Wellington, who defeated Napoleon at the Battle of Waterloo in 1815. **Where is it?** Behind the house, to the left of the Parterre Garden.

6. TULIP TREE

(Latin name: *Liriodendron tulipifera*)

Tulip trees were introduced to Britain from North America by John Tradescant the Younger in the mid-17th century. In June and July, the tree is covered with yellow tulip-shaped flowers. This particular tree is about 100 years old. **Where is it?** In the parkland at the front of the house, near the cloud hedge and path to the Kitchen Garden.

7. YEW

(Latin name: *Taxus baccata*)

At Audley End, yew can be seen as large trees (in the Elysian Garden where you are on the trail) or as clipped hedging (at the front of the house). They can live up to 600 years and have beautiful red bark. The yew in the Elysian

Garden were planted in the 1780s as part of an exotic flower garden. **Where are they?** On the edges of the path running around the Elysian Garden.

8. LONDON PLANE

(Latin name: *Platanus x hispanica*)

This tree was also planted in the Elysian Garden as part of the exotic flower garden in the 1780s. It can grow up to 35 metres tall, and is the most common tree found in London. It is often planted in polluted urban areas and sometimes sheds its scaly bark and grows a new one to cope with these conditions. **Where is it?** Standing alone on the lawn between the Tea House Bridge and the Cascade.

9. MULBERRY

(Latin name: *Morus nigra*)

Mulberry trees have been grown in Britain since the Roman occupation, and mulberry leaves were used by the Romans to treat mouth, trachea and lung diseases. This tree produces very dark red fruits that look like stretched blackberries. They are sweet-tasting and can be eaten by humans. **Where is it?** On the lawn in the Bothy Garden, behind the Vine House.

10. APPLE AND PEAR TREES

(various)

There are 150 different varieties of apples in the Kitchen Garden, and 70 varieties of pears. Look at the different name labels for the trees and they will tell you when each variety was first grown. At Audley End, there is a special weekend to celebrate when the apples and pears are harvested, and you can make your own juice to taste. **Where are they?** Around the plots in the Kitchen Garden.

AUDLEY END TREE TRAIL



3



4

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5



6



7



2



1

KEY

- A** Polish Memorial
- B** Mount Garden
- C** Parterre Garden
- D** Elysian Garden
- E** Tea House Bridge
- F** Cascade
- G** Kitchen Garden
- H** Vine House
- I** Stable Block



8

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9



10

AUDLEY END TREE TRAIL

Use this map to discover the special trees at Audley End by following the trail. The trail will take around 1 hour 15 minutes to walk. If you don't have time for the whole trail, you can do just a part of it.

1. CEDAR OF LEBANON

When he owned Audley End, Sir John Griffin Griffin had this tree planted in around 1763 as part of a garden for his wife.

WHERE IS IT? Looking at the front of the house, it's on the right-hand side.

DID YOU FIND IT?

2. COMMON LIME

Lime trees are often used at country houses like Audley End to make grand avenues (straight lines) of trees to impress visitors.

WHERE ARE THEY? Beside the house on the right-hand side, near the brick wall. Look for two straight rows of trees.

DID YOU FIND THEM?

3. HOWARD OAK

This is a very rare tree because it is a mixture of two different types of oak. It was named after Thomas Howard, the owner who built the grand Jacobean house at Audley End.

WHERE IS IT? Behind the house between the avenue of common limes and the house itself.

DID YOU FIND IT?

4. HORSE CHESTNUT

The conkers made by horse chestnuts in autumn are seeds. The first recorded game of conkers took place on the Isle of Wight in 1848.

WHERE IS IT? Behind the house, between the Howard Oak and the cedar of Lebanon.

DID YOU FIND IT?

5. WELLINGTONIA

This tree is called a redwood and was brought to Britain from California by a Victorian plant hunter called William Lobb. The tallest redwood in the world measures 95 metres.

WHERE IS IT? Behind the house, to the left of the Parterre Garden.

DID YOU FIND IT?

6. TULIP TREE

This tree gets its name from the yellow tulip-shaped flowers it grows in June and July. This particular tree is about 100 years old.

WHERE IS IT? In the parkland at the front of the house, near the cloud hedge and path to the Kitchen Garden.

DID YOU FIND IT?

7. YEW

At Audley End, yew can be seen as large trees (in the Elysian Garden where you are on the trail) or as clipped hedging (at the front of the house). They can live up to 600 years and have beautiful red bark.

WHERE ARE THEY? On the edges of the path running around the Elysian Garden.

DID YOU FIND THEM?

8. LONDON PLANE

There are lots of these trees in London. They sometimes shed their scaly bark and grow new ones, like a snake shedding a skin.

WHERE IS IT? Standing alone on the lawn between the Tea House Bridge and the Cascade.

DID YOU FIND IT?

9. MULBERRY

Mulberry trees have been grown in Britain since Roman times. The tree makes sweet, dark red fruits that can be eaten by humans, but only if the birds don't eat them first.

WHERE IS IT? On the lawn in the Bothy Garden, behind the Vine House.

DID YOU FIND IT?

10. APPLE AND PEAR TREES

There are 150 different varieties (types) of apples in the Kitchen Garden, and 70 varieties of pears. Look at the different name labels for the trees and they will tell you when each variety was first grown.

WHERE ARE THEY? Around the plots in the Kitchen Garden.

DID YOU FIND THEM?

AUDLEY END TREE TRAIL



3



4

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5



6



7



2



1



KEY

- A** Polish Memorial
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- I** Stable Block



8

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9



10

SELF-LED ACTIVITY

FLORA STUDY GUIDE

KS2

KS3

KS4+

Recommended for

KS2–4 (Art)

Learning objectives

- Explore historical artists and their source materials to develop critical and contextual skills.
- Record observations as a basis for exploring ideas.
- Consider how to re-create the colours and textures of leaves and petals in a piece of artwork.

Time to complete

Approx. 60 minutes



A dahlia is one of many beautiful flowers you can find at Audley End.

SUMMARY

This is an activity to encourage students to closely examine the plants, flowers and artwork on display at Audley End. The students will record their observations by sketching what they see in a sketchbook or through photography. They may find it helpful to refer to the parts of the flower on page 31 to identify the aspects of the flower they are interested in capturing.

YOU WILL NEED:

- A sketchbook
- Something to draw with
- Something to take photos with (optional).

Each garden space at Audley End has very different types of flora; the Historical Information section on page 13 gives an idea of what will be growing in each garden.

Once the students have sketched flowers in the garden, they may wish to see paintings of the flowers and gardens on display in the house. To help with historical context, please explore William Tomkins or Edmund Garvey, historical artists who have used Audley End as inspiration for their work. Their work is shown at Audley End House and can be found as sources on pages 48–50.

MORE LEARNING IDEAS

Students can take this activity further by experimenting with materials such as watercolours, pastels, chalks and other media to achieve different outcomes based on their initial work done at Audley End.

This activity would support students taking part in our annual Art in Bloom event hosted at Audley End in the summer. For more information about this project please contact the Education Bookings Team.

TOP TIPS FOR DRAWING FLORA



1 Take your time looking closely at the plant or flower you're going to draw.

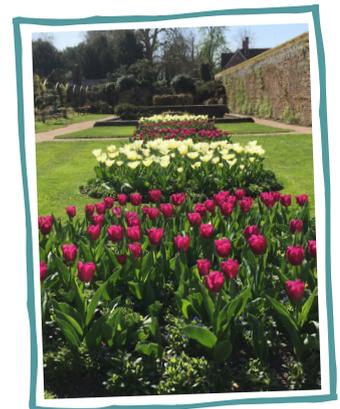
2 What kind of shapes do you see? Start with the basic shapes and add more detail as you go along.



3 Think about the colours you see. Petals and leaves might appear to be all one colour at first sight, but there will be a range of hues. This could be because of the light shining through or perhaps casting shadows. Flowers may have colours and patterns on their petals to encourage pollinators.



4 Plants can move in the gentlest of breezes. It may be helpful to take a photograph of the plant you are interested in.



SELF-LED ACTIVITY

SPECIAL OPS PE

KS2

KS3

Recommended for

KS2–3 (History,
Languages, PE)

Learning objectives

- Discover the role Audley End played in the Polish efforts during the Second World War.
- Experience some of the exercise drills the officers would have undertaken.
- Learn key words in Polish.

Time to complete

Approx. 30 minutes



Soldiers crossing the river Cam on a rope bridge.

SUMMARY

During the Second World War, Audley End was a training ground for Polish Special ops forces. Explain that the Polish agents were called 'Cichociemni' meaning 'silent unseen'.

They would use the grounds to train and to keep physically fit.

In the grounds, warm up as a class by stretching. Then divide into 4 groups – each group will start with a different exercise – push-ups, sit-ups, skipping or jogging. Count from 1 to 10 in Polish and each group will repeat their exercise 10 times, counting along with the group leader. When they have completed a set of 10, they move on to the next exercise until all 4 have been completed. Cool down as a class with the stretching.

There is a guide to pronunciation of Polish words in the Teachers' Notes on page 41.

Once the exercise is complete, see how many Polish words the group can remember. As a group, find the memorial to the Polish special ops forces in the grounds at Audley End and read the inscription together.

MORE LEARNING IDEAS

Use the photograph on page 54 the experience of exercising at Audley and the information on page 12 to write an account of an officer training at Audley End.

The memorial to the Polish officers has the words 'DULCE ET DECORUM EST PRO PATRIA MORI' engraved on it. Read the Wilfred Owen poem in class and discuss its themes.

SPECIAL OPS TRAINING

Numbers

1

jeden

2

dwa

3

trzy

4

cztery

5

piec

6

szesc

7

siedem

8

osiem

9

dziewiec

10

dziesiec

Training exercises.

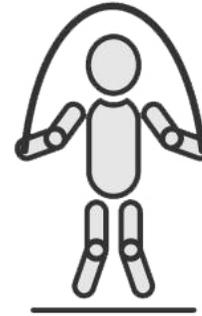
Do each exercise 10 times,
counting from 1 to 10 in Polish.



pompka
push up



przysiadów
sit up



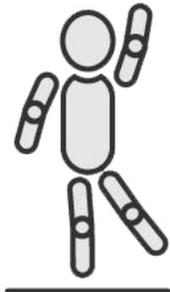
skakac
skip or hop



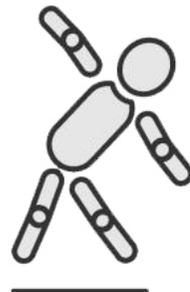
biegac
run

Cool down stretches.

Hold each stretch for 10 seconds,
counting each second in Polish.



rozciągać sie
stretch up



rozciągnij w prawo
stretch to the right



rozciągnij w lewo
stretch to the left



dotykać palców u nóg
touch your toes

The soldiers would also train by
playing volleyball and football.

POLISH PRONUNCIATION

TEACHERS' NOTES

These notes are to help with the pronunciation of the Polish words. It is intended as a guide; if there is a native Polish speaker in your class, ask them to lead with the language component of the activity.

NUMBERS

- 1 jeden – yeah-den
- 2 dwa – duh-wa
- 3 trzy – tcht-reh
- 4 cztery – ch-tery
- 5 piec - piech
- 6 szesc - sheitch
- 7 siedem - shedem
- 8 osiem – osh-em
- 9 dziewiec – jiv-ench
- 10 dziesięc – jishench

EXERCISES

- biegac – be-ah-gatch – running or jogging
- skakac – skok – a hop or a skip
- pompka – pomp-ka – push up
- przysiadów – pshi-sha-doof - sit up
- rozciągać sie – rose-chon-ac- say – stretch up
- rozciągnij w prawo – ros- chon–nif pravo – stretch to the right
- rozciągnij w lewo – ros-chon-nif levo – stretch to the left
- dotykać palców u nóg – do-tea-catch palco oo nuc – touch your toes



POST-VISIT

Activities and information to help you extend your students' learning back in the classroom.

SOURCES

PEER INTO THE PAST

A historical source is something that tells us about life in the past, such as a document, a picture or an object. It may be a primary source, from the time, or a secondary source, created later. Our experts have chosen these sources to help you learn about the history of Audley End House and Gardens.

SOURCE 1



A digital reconstruction showing how Audley End may have looked in 1614.

SOURCE 2



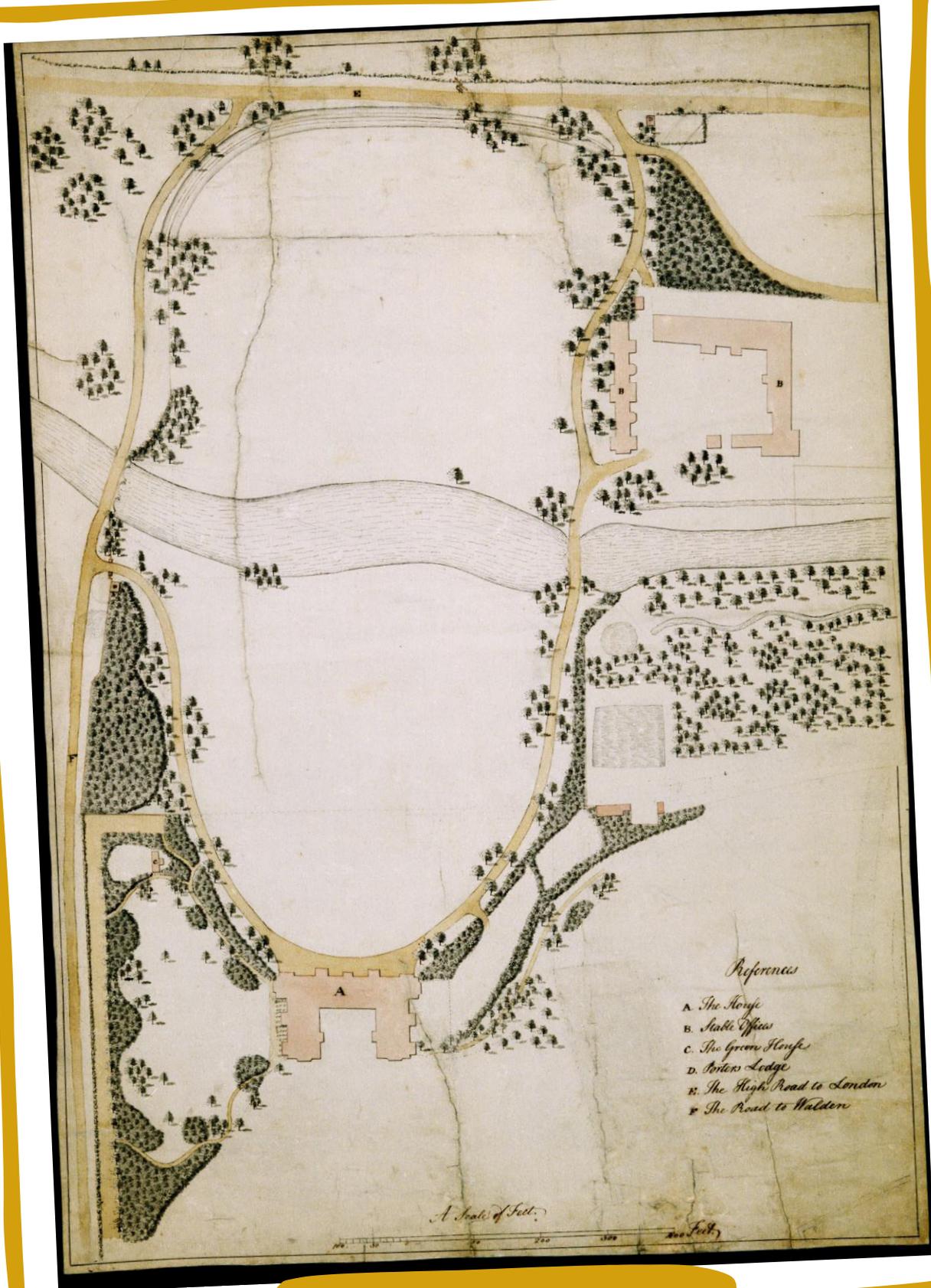
A digital reconstruction showing how Audley End may have looked in the time of Elizabeth, Countess of Portsmouth, about 1760.

SOURCE 3



A digital reconstruction of how Audley End may have looked in the time of the Braybrookes, about 1835.

SOURCE 4



A paper plan of Lancelot 'Capability' Brown's 1762 landscape design around Audley End House.

Here are some extracts from a diary that reveal what working life was like.

William Cresswell was a 22-year-old undergardener in the kitchen garden team at Audley End. He worked there for seven months in 1874, and kept a diary which records the life of a professional working gardener.

It describes weather conditions, the tasks he undertook each day, the types of plants found in the gardens and what life was like living in the bothy (a small cottage) behind the main greenhouse.

Tuesday 10 March

Peaches well syringed with engine, morning and afternoon. Made up fires at 12 noon. Ground covered with snow 4 inches deep, 10° of frost same time, heat in all houses and pits.

Saturday 14 March

Shallots planted in rows 1 foot apart by 6 inches in the row. Seeds sown of Roseberry, Brussel Sprouts and Asiatic Cauliflower in open ground covered over with netting to protect from birds.

Tuesday 24 March

First lot of forced strawberries gathered. Mr B out. Well syringed peach trees in late house to clear of bloom where fruit has set.

Tuesday 31 March

Fruit trees in Orchard house syringed and dusted with snuff tobacco powder etc. to kill flies.

Mr B home again. Gathered violets early in morning.

Saturday 11 April

Wind N. dull, showery, very changeable. Went through houses putting plants in order and houses cleaned up etc. 10 boxes filled with soil for Beans and put in 3rd vinery. Well smoked orchard and late Peach houses at night. Received from Mr Bryan 1/- for extra work etc.

Monday 20 April

Planted out in flower beds. Red Beet sown in drills, also Ridge Cucumber and Vegetable Marrows in pans indoors. Sat up late writing letters.

Tuesday 5 May

Seeds sown in Kitchen Garden of Broccoli, Kail Cabbage and other greens.

Monday 11 May

Wind N.E. vey cold, 5° of frost this morning and yesterday morning. Earthed up Beans in pots (3 in a 24 size) and put on shelf in later vinery, Grapes in this house now in bloom, atmosphere kept dryer with more heat viz 75° by night, 85° by day or more with sun heat, these are Muscats, first lot cut from early house. Lady Braybrooke came on a visit for the day, accompanied by the chaplain.

Wednesday 13 May

French Beans raised in boxes, planted out and covered at night with mats to protect them from the frost. Potatoes are now black from frost.

Wednesday 20 May

Seed beds in Kitchen Garden well watered, slipped in tank in 2nd vinery; tore trousers.

Cut Cucumber for Mr Warren.

Monday 25 May

Vegetable Marrows and Tomatoes planted out, protected with handlights. Onions thinned 1st time. Several visitors round with Mr Bryan. JB received from them perquisite's 4/-s.

Wednesday 17 June

Boy came into garden for frightening birds from fruit. Bees swarmed.

Sunday 5 July

Had New Potatoes yesterday and today – 1st this season, also Green Peas.

Thursday 6 August

Wind N.W. blowing strong all day, clear bright morning, fine day. Took up plants to house for the decoration of His Lordship's study for Ball tonight and Dinner party. Red Quarrenden Apples gathered, Veitch's Autumn Giant Cauliflower coming into use, several been cut.

Monday 31 August

Received from Mr Bryan £3.9s 4d for month's wages, also notice to leave at end of next month.



SOURCE 6



'A Prospect of Audley End from the Ring Temple, Saffron Walden beyond', by William Tomkins (1732–92). Oil on canvas, 1789.

SOURCE 7



Audley End from the north-east, seen through a clearing in trees, by William Tomkins (1732–92). Oil on canvas, 1789.

SOURCE 8



AUDLEY END FROM THE WEST
EDMUND GARVEY 1782

View of Audley End from the west, with sheep and cattle in the foreground, by Edmund Garvey (1767–1813). Oil on canvas, 1782.

SOURCE 9



A flower painting depicting an arrangement of roses and other flowers in a wall recess with brass rings to the upper corners, by Simon Verelst (1640–1721). Oil on canvas, 1680s.

SOURCE 10



Still life with monkey and parrot, by Pieter Casteels (1684-1749).
Oil on canvas, c.1720

SOURCE 11



Polish war memorial at Audley End.

Polish War Memorial at Audley End:

BETWEEN/ 1942 AND 1944/ POLISH MEMBERS/ OF THE/ SPECIAL OPERATIONS EXECUTIVE/ TRAINED
IN THIS HOUSE/ FOR MISSIONS IN THEIR HOMELAND/ THIS MEMORIAL COMMEMORATES/ THE
ACHIEVEMENTS OF THOSE/ WHO PARACHUTED INTO/ ENEMY OCCUPIED POLAND/ AND GAVE THEIR
LIVES/ FOR THE FREEDOM OF/ THIS AND THEIR OWN/ COUNTRY

The two flanking sides of the plinth are inscribed with the words *DULCE ET DECORUM EST PRO PATRIA MORI* arranged in a circle. The rear face has an attached metal 'screaming eagle' emblem, and below the incised dates 1942–1944.



SOURCE 12



A photograph of soldiers crossing the river Cam as part of a training exercise between 1942 and 1944. © Polish Underground Movement (1939–1945) Study Trust, London

SELF-LED ACTIVITY

A GARDENING INVENTOR

KS2

KS3

Recommended for

KS2–3 (History, Science, Design and Technology)

Learning objectives

- Investigate the diary entries of the gardener at Audley End and deduce the issues the gardeners were facing in caring for the plants.
- Design a device, system or technique to help the gardeners overcome these issues.

Time to complete

Approx. 30 minutes to read and discuss sources

Approx. 60 minutes to design a response



The gardeners can still grow plants when it's cold by using greenhouses.

SUMMARY

Audley End has a history of invention and innovation (see page 10), which we can see in how the gardens are designed. Students are to consider the issues faced by gardeners in the past and in the present and are to design tools and techniques to enable them to overcome these difficulties.

Read the diary entries of William Cresswell, a 22-year-old undergardener in the kitchen garden team at Audley End from 1874 on page 47. William describes weather conditions, the tasks he undertook each day, and the types of plants found in the gardens.

Identify the issues that he and the gardeners faced at Audley End, for example, bad weather and pests. During your time at Audley End, investigate how the gardening team are coping with these issues in the gardens today.

Students can design a prototype and, where possible, should be encouraged to build a model using appropriate materials and to think about environmental sustainability throughout.

MORE LEARNING IDEAS

William's diary entries are a rich source for learning about daily life at Audley End. Students may wish to use them as inspiration for a creative writing exercise to imagine what life was like for the gardeners at the house.

SELF-LED ACTIVITY

CHANGING LANDSCAPES



Recommended for

KSI-2 (History, Science)

Learning objectives

- Consider how the landscape at Audley End has changed over the years.
- Investigate the impact of the people who redesigned the gardens on the local environment.
- Gain a greater understanding of humanity's impact on our environment.

Time to complete

Approx. 30 minutes



The landscape has been heavily designed by gardeners, with lots of flowers that aren't native to the area.

SUMMARY

Audley End and its grounds have been changed and redesigned several times over the course of the property's existence. This activity explores how Audley End has changed over time.

Watch the short film 'Postcard from Audley End House and Gardens' (0 min 57 sec) on English Heritage's YouTube channel to see an overview of the landscape and gardens at Audley End. Ask your students how many features they remember from their visit.

Look at the sources on pages 43–46, 48 and 50 and as a class arrange them into chronological order. Compare these images with what the class saw on their visit and in the YouTube video, discuss what the biggest change was and when it happened. Consider the impact these changes, such as diverting the river Cam, would have on the local flora and fauna. After the discussion, ask the students to draw a plan of what the Audley End gardens look like today.

TEACHER ANSWERS

Source dates (in order):

Source 1 is from 1614

Source 2 is from 1760

Source 4 is from 1762

Source 8 is from 1782

Source 6 is from 1789

Source 3 is from 1835

MORE LEARNING IDEAS

Consider how the introduction of new plants, like the exotic fruits, and animals, such as the otters may have had an impact on native species.