



The John Clare Trust



The John Clare Trust

www.clarecottage.org



Background



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- 2004 John Clare's cottage on open market and The John Clare Trust formed.
 - 2006/7 Application to the Heritage Lottery Fund to develop the site into a *Cultural, Educational and Environmental* hub.
 - 2007 Awarded lottery funding of £1.27m



Aims and Objectives



To advance the education of the public in:

- The life and works of John Clare, poet and environmentalist.
- All aspects of the arts and creativity, particularly poetry and music.
- Conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment.
- To facilitate public access to John Clare's birth place and other land and properties related to his life.
- Promote education outside the classroom.

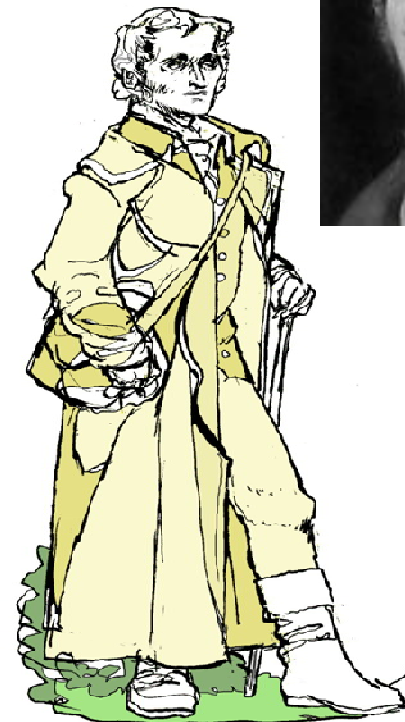


John Clare: the man

1793 – 1864



- Peasant Poet
- Self-taught
- Environmentalist
- Naturalist
- Community traditions historian
- Asylum
- Reappraisal





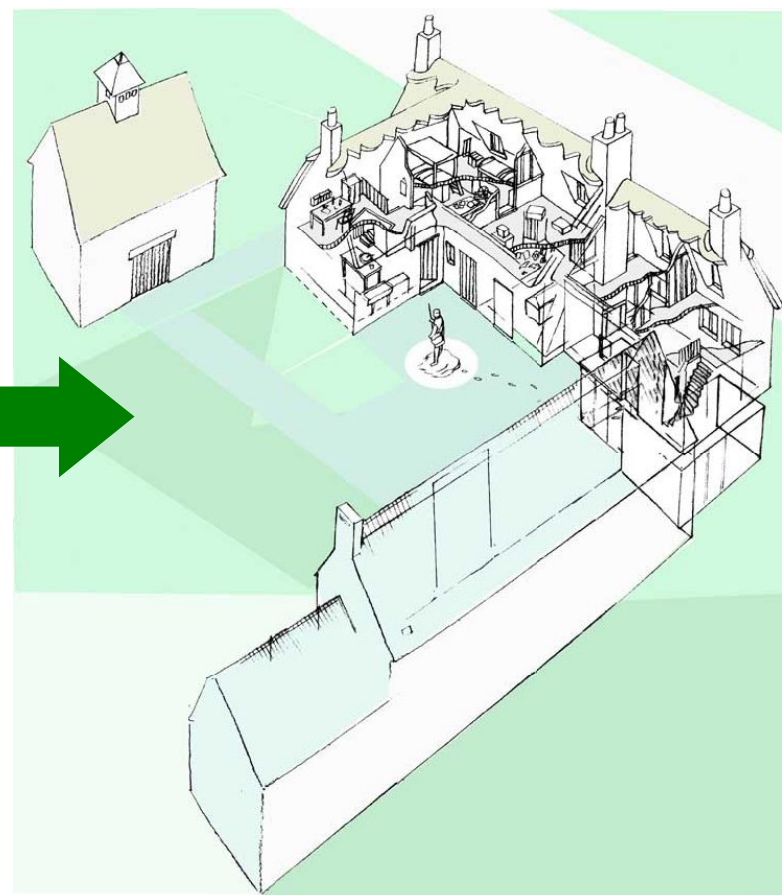
Trustees



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- **Chairman Barry Sheerman MP**
 - **Deputy chairman: Paul Chirico, University of Cambridge**
 - **The gathering of two minds – enterprise and academic**



Clare Cottage Today





Dovecote



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- Record your inspirations
 - Contribute to the Dovecote poems collection



Clare's Garden



- **Learning Garden Project**
- **5 Arbours of Contemplation**
- **Swale**
- **Bees**
- **Weather Station**





Clare's Country



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- **6 Walks (audio tours)**
 - **Garden**
 - **Village Experience**
 - **Work**
 - **Clare's Country**



Education



KS3

- Literature and Creative Writing
- Nature and the Environment
- Geography Field Trips
- History and Heritage
- Arts and Crafts
- Weather and Meteorology
- Cooking and Baking
- Bees

KS4/KS5

- Literature and Creative Writing
- Romantic Poetry
- AQA Syllabus – John Clare
- Nature and the Environment
- History and Heritage
- Weather and Meteorology



TEACHER'S INTRODUCTION

ACTIVITIES TO DO WITH THE CLASS BEFORE YOU VISIT

John Clare Trust

John Clare Education Pack
Year 5/6

Geography – Where I live?

Teacher's Introduction:

John Clare Trust has refurbished John Clare's cottage to its original state giving you the opportunity to travel back in time to this exciting era. During their visit the children will be able to move through John Clare's various rooms, touch the artefacts and see the village of Helpston through John Clare's eyes.

This is a wonderful opportunity for children to see the heritage of their local area and learn about the famous poet and the time when he lived through creative and 'hands on' learning experiences.

This specific unit is designed to teach children how the Village of Helpston and its surrounding landscape has changed over the last 200 years. The children will have the opportunity to look at secondary resources and then experience the countryside of the village themselves. They will come away from the experience with a new found knowledge of how John Clare grew up in the village of Helpston and how it changed considerably over the years because of agricultural change. The children will also have the chance to look at the development of the village and pick out the landmarks themselves using clues and maps.

Before your visit:

- CARBON FOOTPRINT** -As a class look at the meaning of the 'Carbon Footprint'. Ask children to find out their carbon footprint before they visit to compare with each other and John Clare.

Key Questions-What is a carbon footprint? A carbon footprint is a "measure of the impact activities have on the environment in terms of the amount of greenhouse gases produced, measured in units of carbon dioxide.

How is it measured?
What can you do to as a person/family to make sure you are improving the environment we are living in?
<http://actionco2.direct.gov.uk/index.html>

- LANDSCAPES**-Discuss how a landscape can change around you over time. Look at what you can see from your classroom window; venture outside to look at the landscape around the school. Children can sketch what they can see from the classroom window. This can then be compared to a sketch that the children will do of the countryside of Helpston.

**Key Questions-What can you see in the area you live in?
Has it changed over the last few years?
Do you live in a city or the country?**

Year 5/6 units

During your visit with the education Group Leader:

The children will be working either as a whole group or smaller groups. They will be taking part in either whole group input and discovery or small group interactive activities that they will work through as a rotation. All the work the children take part in through the day can be followed up at school. A brief outline of the activities is as follows:

- Comparing John Clare's carbon footprint to people of today.
- Comparing different places (city and countryside)
- Looking at the changing Landscape.

After your visit:

Activity 1
Look at how people can start to change their carbon footprint. Make a persuasive leaflet to encourage people to look after the environment by changing the way they travel.

Activity 2
Transport- What types of transport do people in your area use. Conduct a survey at school finding out types of travel. What is the most popular method of transport? Is it environmentally friendly?

Activity 3
Design a brochure to promote Helpston as a village and look at why it is better to live in the country. You could include facts about John Clare and talk about the key landmarks around the village.

Activity 4
Carbon Footprint- Find out what your family do to protect the environment. Design a leaflet to send home.

ACTIVITIES TO DO WITH THE CLASS AFTER YOU VISIT



LEARNING OBJECTIVES

NATIONAL CURRICULUM LINKS

ACTIVITY BREAKDOWN

<p>John Clare Trust</p> <p>Volunteer's Pack</p> <p><u>Geography/Where I live?</u></p> <p>Learning Outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children will understand how to compare their carbon footprint to that of John Clare. To look at how the landscape in Helpston has changed and compare it to their environment and predict what it will be like in the future. To understand how places are similar and different to each other. 	<p>Year 5/6 units</p> <p>Compare where you would go on holiday to John Clare? How would you get there? (Plane, car, boat)</p> <p>Design a survey that can look at the environment of Helpston; include traffic around Helpston. As recycling is an important way of reducing our carbon footprint think of ideas how recycling can be used at the cottage.</p> <p>Room 16/19 (Education Room/Garden)</p> <p>Look at a selection of poems about the landscape of Helpston; what do you know about how Clare has described Helpston? In groups discuss what Clare has written about. Pick out the images of animals and the landscape of Helpston. These can be recorded. In your mini work books.</p> <p>Poems-Autumn Birds, Summer Images etc.</p> <p>E.g. In the poem Summer Images 'sunny valley leaced with stream'.</p> <p>Pick out a list of key features of Helpston from the poems and discuss how Clare has used. Children can then link these ideas to the areas where they live. What are the similarities and differences between the landscape of Helpston in your town/City? In the garden/village walk make a note of what you can see and hear. Can you link any of these to your own experiences?</p>
<p>National Curriculum Links:</p> <p>5b - recognise how and why people may seek to manage environments sustainably; and identify opportunities for their own involvement.</p> <p>5a - to identify how and why places change and how they may change in the future.</p> <p>5f - to describe and explain how and why places are similar to and different from other places in the same country and other parts of the world (for example, comparing a village with a town or city in the same country) improving the environment (QCA)</p>	<p>Whole group village work (80 mins)</p> <p>Linked to Art</p> <p>Children will need to look at pictures/poems about how Helpston looked in the time of John Clare. The children will have the opportunity to sketch/ oil paint/paste how Helpston looks today (as if through a window/Can be linked to Window by Jeanie Baker). They can compare this with how John Clare would have seen Helpston in his lifetime. Read poem 'In Hilly-wood' How is John Clare's picture of Helpston different to the one we see today. Note similarities and differences.</p> <p>Key Questions-What do the children notice about the landscape? What is different from the way Clare saw Helpston to how it looks today? Children can discuss how they think Helpston will look in the future-continue at school afterwards as Art work.</p>
<p>Introduction</p> <p>At the start of the visit, explain to the children that they will be used throughout the visit, explain to the children that they will be used to make notes and use for activities throughout the day. Ask the children what they already know about John Clare and the village of Helpston. Give the children the opportunity to look at the area where John Clare grew up and how he was inspired by the nature and countryside around him. They will be able to compare John Clare's home town to their own and see similarities and differences. By the end of the day the children will understand how places change over time and how the of the changing countryside has impacted on Clare as a person. The children will be able to take in the beauty of the countryside and hopefully capture a small part of what John Clare would have seen in his lifetime. Finally the children will understand how factors around us can change the countryside and what we can do as people to help the environment around us.</p>	<p>Survey linked to 'Carbon footprint'</p> <p>Using the survey from the cottage make a note of what you can see round Helpston. Children can work in small groups using a survey that they have designed at the cottage. They can start to think about how people live, what transport is being used in Helpston and what recycling facilities are available. Back at the cottage they can look at their results and think about how Helpston is making an impact on the environment.</p>
<p>Main Activities: Rotation Cottage/Garden (80 minutes)</p> <p>Half a class in the cottage at any one time.</p> <p>Room 7</p> <p>The children will look at what 'Carbon Footprint' means and how over time this has changed and will be able to compare it to the carbon footprint of John Clare. The children can find out how transport, living and leisure can have a big impact on the world today. There will be an opportunity to find out each others carbon footprint and compare them to Clare. Children can think of the different factors that will change the area of Helpston such as travel that include an increase in cars rather than walking.</p> <p>Key Questions-How would John Clare travel to his job as a gardener at Burghley house? How would John Clare travel around Helpston?</p>	<p>Plenary (10mins)</p> <p>At the end of the session the children will be able to compare their landscape pictures with the pictures of Helpston from the past. The children can talk about why they think Helpston has changed and how they think Helpston will look in the future.</p> <p>Look at results from the survey. Is Helpston reducing their carbon footprint? If not how can they improve their village?</p>



Lifelong Learning



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- Lifelong Learning Mission Statement
 - Clare Cottage is committed to providing access to a wide range of learning experiences for adults, aged 19 and over, as well as families in the surrounding area. Lifelong Learning at Clare Cottage will have a particular focus on Arts and Crafts, The Environment, Heritage and Culture.
 - Courses on offer soon:
 - Learning to use your digital camera
 - Beginners IT course
 - Poetry Appreciation
 - Creative Writing
 - Painting and Drawing
 - Crafts
 - Nature Walks



Education



Non-School Groups and Extra-Curricular Activities

- **Scouts, Guides, Brownies and Cubs**
- **Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme
(Volunteering and Skills sections)**
- **Community Programme**



Clare Cottage Facilities



- **Conferences & Training**
- **Meetings**
- **Events**



Clare Cottage: the future



- Dynamic educational centre.
- Encourage the exploration of rural life and the beauty of the natural world.
- Promote literacy and creativity amongst children and adults.
- Inspiration to visitors in areas such as literacy, creativity and scientific understanding.
- Commitment to environmental education.
- Programme of artistic activity provides opportunities for 'outsider' artists.
- Funders





Future Projects and Partnerships



- **Artist in Residence**
- **Bridging Cultures Programme**
- **Raising Aspirations: Literature Seminar, University of Cambridge**
- **Mental Health Partnerships**
- **Research and Forum investigating Access to Learning Provision**
- **The John Clare Trust Poetry Prize**
- **The John Clare Trust Open Art Prize**



Funding and Support



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- Sustainability funding
 - Projects/Bids including Artist in Residence, Bridging Cultures, Mental Health Partnerships
 - Promotion and marketing
 - Transport



Volunteer Opportunities



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- **Point of Sale**
 - **Work in the Café**
 - **House Hosts**
 - **Education Support**
 - **PR Support**
 - **Fundraising**
 - **Communications/Marketing**
 - **Book-keeping**
 - **Help in the Garden**



Contact Information



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