

Primary School Workshop: Festival at the Mount

- Begin the session by asking the pupils if they recognise the image of the Mount, what do they know about the Mount / do they know anything about its heritage and cultural significance? (PP slide 1)
- Explain the cultural, historical significance of the Mount (refer to brief notes below). Ask the pupils why Fleetwood heritage is important?
- Introduce the focus of workshop. Pupils will be thinking about how they can celebrate the history of the Mount by designing a festival or event that could take place there (PP slide 4)
- Ask the pupils if they can think of any examples of different types of festivals and pop-up events. Write on board key examples and themes. What festivals / events do they know about that happen in Fleetwood? E.g. SpareParts / Tram Sunday. Ask how they can benefit the area. Complete cool wall activity in groups. (PP slides 5-6)
- Ask pupils what kind of experiences do we want festivalgoers to have? How would you like to feel? How do they feel when/if they have been to SpareParts? (PP slide 7)
- Give each group a character card. In groups, pupils to discuss: what might this particular person want from a festival? What type of activities might they like to do? Each group to feedback. Buzzwords and adjectives to go on the board. Class discussion: Can we design festivals so that all these groups can have a great experience? What ideas have we got for how we can do that? (PP slide 8)
- In groups, pupils discuss the questions and start visioning for their festival / event. Groups are given a site plan of the Mount, decide where their festival / event will take place and complete visual brief (PP slides 9-10)
- Get the groups to consider the temporary structures they will need for their festival / event as they will need to model these in the modelling activity (PP slides 11-12)
- Once agreed on final design, groups model-make their designs (PP slide 13)
- Each group presents their idea to another group or the whole class. Constructive feedback. Consider what they would change / do differently if had more time (PP slide 14)

The Mount

[The Mount Gardens • look around with Visit Fleetwood](#)

- The Mount is a small hill that overlooks the promenade with a pavilion at the top that has a clock from World War One.
- There are gardens that surround the area called The Mount Gardens.
- The Mount used to be a huge sand-dune and rabbit warren. In 1836, Sir Peter Hesketh Fleetwood hired the architect Decimus Burton to plan his new town called Fleetwood.
- From the top of highest sand dune (what is now The Mount) they planned the roads and layout of Fleetwood.
- The roads and layout are like spokes on a wheel with The Mount at the centre.
- The Mount pavilion on top of the hill was built in 1902. It is over 100 years old.
- In 2016, the Lofthouse family donated £1million to renovate The Mount and surrounding areas. This money helped pay for the new railings and improve the old shelters. The money also paid for the planting around The Mount too. The plants that were chosen can survive harsh, salty winds from the sea.
- The area is now being developed with money from the Heritage Lottery Fund. If you walk past today, you can see the building work going on to help improve the area for people living in Fleetwood and visiting the area.

Example of Visual Brief (see PP slide 10)

What does your festival / event look like?

Family-friendly festival; happens in the summertime as activities are outdoors. Brings the community and visitors together. Silly and fun and informally educating and celebrating the history of the landscape: the Mount was the tallest sand dune and used to be a huge rabbit warren. People encouraged to dress-up as rabbits so from afar the Mount once again looks like a busy, interconnected rabbit warren full of people being active and having fun.

Key words: fun, family, friendly, summer, connected, rabbit fancy dress, community

What does it include?

Temporary hill slides are installed that slide down from the pavilion at the top of the Mount, celebrating its history as the tallest point in Fleetwood and with the slides mirroring Burton's 'spokes on a wheel' town plan for Fleetwood. Children and adults alike can take a sandbag and have fun sliding down the old sand dune. Other activities include:

- *Rabbit face painting/fancy dress*
- *Bunny hopping sandbag sack race*
- *Sandcastle/sand sculpture competitions along the seafront*
- *Community allotment swap - a temporary festival market where Fleetwood residents bring along fruit and vegetables that they've grown throughout the year to swap and trade, fresh juice bar*
- *Live music performances from local talent*
- *Community picnics - bringing people together to share food and drink etc*

Why is it special and unique to Fleetwood?

Celebrates landscape history of the Mount as tallest sand dune (sand themed activities) and rabbit warren (key theme of the festival through fancy dress, branding, silly and fun)

Rabbit warren is interconnected - theme and aim of the festival is to bring Fleetwood community members and visitors together.

How does it celebrate the history of Fleetwood, the community and the future?

Educates on Fleetwood's landscape history e.g. Mount as rabbit warren sand dune and tallest point where Burton planned his spokes of a wheel town plan for Fleetwood in an informal, silly, fun, family-friendly way. Aim is to bring the community together through celebration of their town's history and through the different activities at the festival (community picnic, allotment swap, local music bands) to help keep Fleetwood a connected community in the future.

Where should it be and why?

Mainly on the Mount, Mount gardens as celebrating the history of this landscape. Some activities along the seafront.

How big is it?

Fairly big, with activities spread out over the Mount, Mount gardens, seafront.

What structures / activities / buildings etc. are needed?

Temporary slides installed on the hill; temporary stage for performances from local bands, temporary market stalls for food and drink and allotment swap, sandbags for sliding down the slides and sack race, toilets, bins etc.