



The  
London Eye

# THE LONDON SKYLINE



**A journey through the human and physical geography of London**  
Pre- and Post-visit Lessons (ages 7-13)



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## PRE- AND POST-VISIT LESSONS

The London Skyline (Ages 7-13)  
A journey through the human and  
physical geography of London...

# Your educational visit to the London Eye...

**Pupils will...** experience the trip of a lifetime while also experiencing a lesson they'll never forget, 135 metres above the River Thames! They will locate and categorise London's main physical and human features into North, South, East and West compass positions, describe the physical and human features of London in relation to the capital's history, and analyse the impact of London's architecture on its environment, culture and tourism industry.

**The objectives of these pre- and post-visit lessons include, but are not limited to:**

- ★ **To develop** a greater understanding of London's geographical position
- ★ **To identify** landmarks of historical and modern significance in London
- ★ **To explore** both the positive and negative impacts of tourism
- ★ **To create** a proposal for a new tourist attraction and build a 3D model of it
- ★ **To draw** local skylines and compare and contrast them to London's
- ★ **To create** a map of London detailing its human and physical geographical features

These lessons have been written for pupils aged 5-9 but could be differentiated for younger or older age ranges at the teacher's discretion.



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## Objectives and outcomes

This pack provides material for at least three hour-long lessons; the first two should be delivered before visiting the London Eye attraction, and the third should be delivered after visiting, to consolidate learning.

### Pre-visit Lesson 1: Landmark Detective Files

#### Objectives:

- ★ To identify at least three key facts about London's location
- ★ To describe some of London's landmarks and tourist attractions

#### Outcomes:

A map labelled with London's position; a table of facts and questions about London; a sketch of London's skyline; London 'Detective File' cards.

### Pre-visit Lesson 2: Create Your Own Attraction

#### Objectives:

- ★ To consider the positive and negative impacts that tourism can have
- ★ To create a proposal and a 3D model of a new tourist attraction

#### Outcomes:

A worksheet listing the pros and cons of tourism; a proposal for a new London attraction; a 3D model of an attraction.

### Post-visit Lesson 1: Changing Skylines

#### Objectives:

- ★ To compare and contrast your own town or city skyline to London's
- ★ To create a map of London including both its human and physical features

#### Outcomes:

A sketch of a local skyline; a chronological timeline showing when London's attractions were built; a list of human/physical features in London; a detailed map of London.

## PRE-VISIT LESSON 1

# Landmark Detective Files



### Lead-in questions:

- ★ How many of you have been to London before?
- ★ Can you name any famous landmarks?
- ★ Have you heard of the London Eye?
- ★ Why do you think it was given this name?



# Landmark Detective Files

## TASK 1



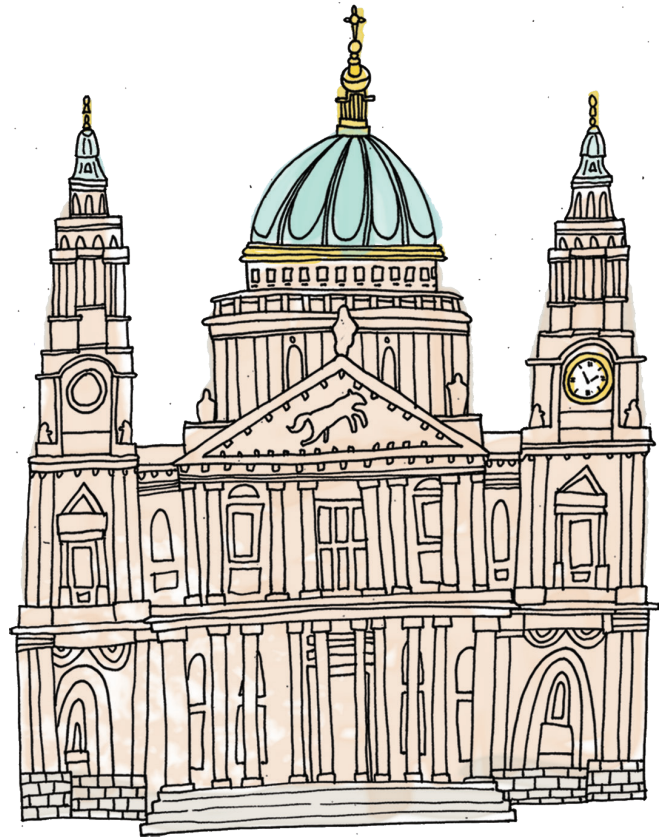
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The London Eye is in London, of course! Before we do anything else, use the Map of London Worksheet to label where London is on the map.

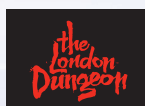
Then, complete the table, writing down at least three things that you know about London, as well as three questions that you have about the city.

Share what you know with a partner and see if you can answer any of their questions.

Don't forget: any unanswered questions can be revisited in Task 4 and in the lessons still to come - not to mention on your trip to the London Eye!



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# Landmark Detective Files



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## TASK 1 RESOURCE

### - MAP OF LONDON WORKSHEET

On the map, highlight or draw around where you think London is. Draw little arrows or dots to label it with any landmarks or attractions that you know of.

Then, fill in the table below.



What do I know about London?


What questions do I have about London?




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# Landmark Detective Files

## TASK 2



Keeping in mind what you have discussed and learned about London in Task 1, sketch which famous London landmarks you might be able to see from the London Eye. If you are more familiar with London, try to make your sketch more accurate in terms of the geographical location of your landmarks. You could even draw the London skyline itself! Don't forget to complete the compass so we know which way you are looking.

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin blue border, intended for students to draw a sketch of London landmarks visible from the London Eye. In the bottom-left corner of this box, there is a small compass rose and a text instruction.

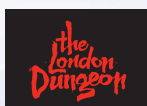
Draw a hand on the compass to show which way you are facing



Draw a hand on the compass to show which way you are facing



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# Landmark Detective Files



## TASK 3

In pairs, create Detective Files cards for some of the landmarks you have discussed and drawn today. On the Detective Files templates, include a brief sketch and use the Landmarks Information Sheet to rate landmarks and attractions out of 100 for specific categories.

Make sure you fill in the 'Interesting Info' category at the bottom of the card, as this can be used to gain bonus points!

When you are ready, play a game of Landmark Detective Files with your partner.

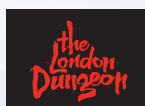
Choose a high-scoring category from your card and ask your partner for their card's score.

If your score is higher than theirs, you win that round, keeping your card and also getting the card from your partner.

Whoever is left with all the cards at the end is the winner!



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# Landmark Detective Files

## TASK 3 RESOURCE

### - LANDMARKS INFORMATION SHEET

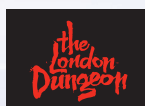


With your partner, use the information below to create Detective Files cards. Rate the landmarks and attractions out of 100 according to the categories on the template given.

<b>River Thames</b> North	It's the longest river in England at 215 miles long. It starts in the Cotswolds and finishes at the North Sea.
<b>Tower Bridge</b> East	Opened in 1894 and still a working bridge. It is raised over 1000 times a year.
<b>St Paul's Cathedral</b> East	Completed in 1710 and was the 2nd largest dome in the world. When it was built it was the tallest building in London. A very popular tourist attraction.
<b>Olympic Park</b> East	Built for the London 2012 Olympics. A huge site of around 500 acres. The most sustainable Olympic stadium ever built.
<b>Westminster Abbey</b> South	English kings and queens have been crowned here since 1066. Prince William and Kate Middleton were married here.
<b>Big Ben</b> South	An enormous 14-tonne bell in the clock tower. The clock tower is part of the Palace of Westminster.
<b>Houses of Parliament</b> South	One of the most famous buildings in London. Made up of the House of Commons and the House of Lords. It had to be rebuilt in 1843 due a fire.
<b>Buckingham Palace</b> West	The monarch's official residence since the start of the Victorian era (1837). A must-see for tourists, who often gather to take pictures for The Changing of the Guard at 11.30am.



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# Landmark Detective Files

## TASK 3 RESOURCE

### - DETECTIVE FILE TEMPLATE



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Using the 'Landmarks Information Sheet', complete a small sketch in the top box, then rate each landmark and attraction out of 100 according to the categories in the second box. Don't forget to carry out additional research so that you can also fill in the 'Interesting Info' section.

River Thames North
Historical significance =
Size =
Tourist attraction =
Environmentally friendly =
Interesting info...

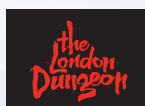
Tower Bridge East
Historical significance =
Size =
Tourist attraction =
Environmentally friendly =
Interesting info...

St Paul's Cathedral East
Historical significance =
Size =
Tourist attraction =
Environmentally friendly =
Interesting info...

Olympic Park East
Historical significance =
Size =
Tourist attraction =
Environmentally friendly =
Interesting info...



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# Landmark Detective Files



## TASK 3 RESOURCE

### - DETECTIVE FILE TEMPLATE - Continued

Using the 'Landmarks Information Sheet', complete a small sketch in the top box, then rate each landmark and attraction out of 100 according to the categories in the second box. Don't forget to carry out additional research so that you can also fill in the 'Interesting Info' section.

Westminster Abbey South
Historical significance =
Size =
Tourist attraction =
Environmentally friendly =
Interesting info...

Big Ben South
Historical significance =
Size =
Tourist attraction =
Environmentally friendly =
Interesting info...

Houses of Parliament South
Historical significance =
Size =
Tourist attraction =
Environmentally friendly =
Interesting info...

Buckingham Palace West
Historical significance =
Size =
Tourist attraction =
Environmentally friendly =
Interesting info...

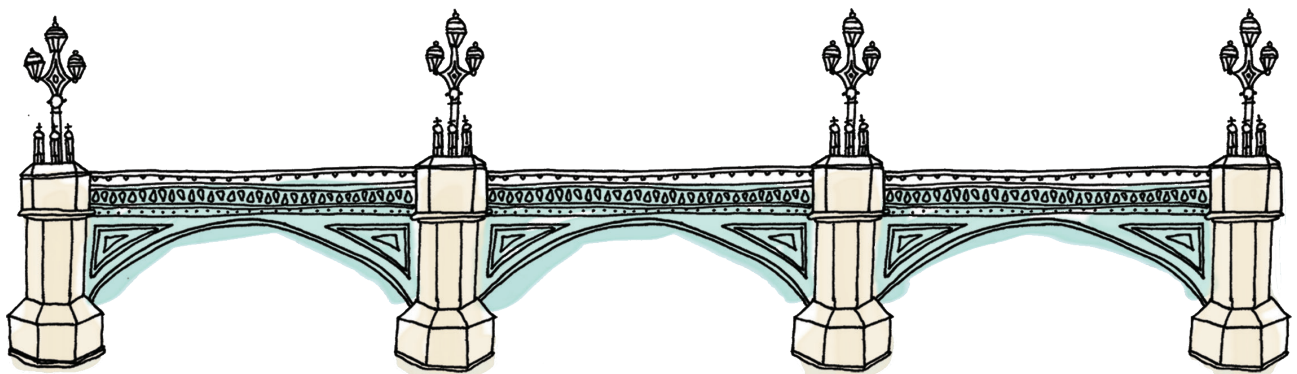


# Landmark Detective Files

## TASK 3 EXTENSION



Get bonus points in your game of Landmark Detective Files by being able to state the 'Interesting Info' about the landmark on your partner's card in each round!

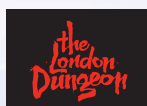


## TASK 4

Discuss which landmark you think is the most interesting or impressive based on the work you have done in the lesson. Then, go back to your Task 1 Map of London Worksheet to see if any important questions remain unanswered; these can be revisited during your workshop experience at the London Eye!



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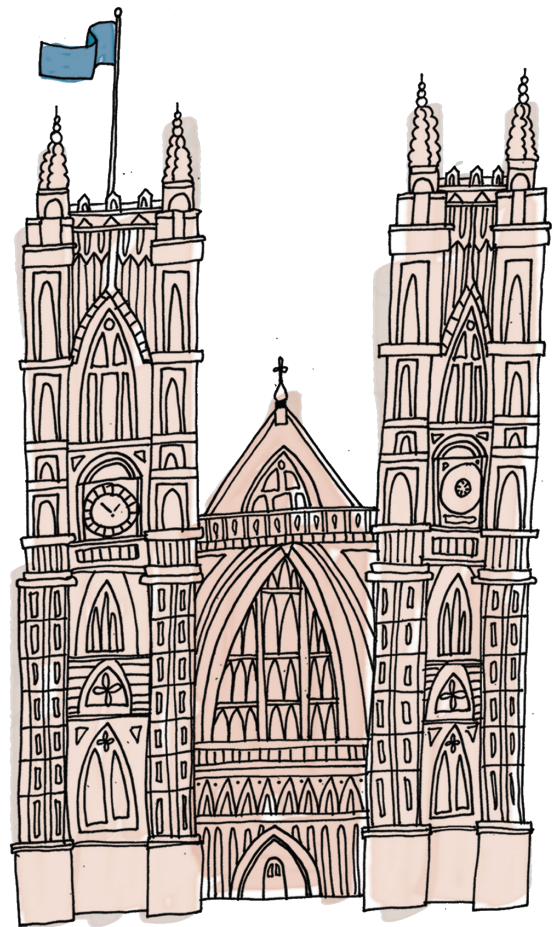


## PRE-VISIT LESSON 2

# Create your own attraction

### Lead-in questions:

- ★ What makes a landmark or attraction popular?
- ★ What are the benefits of London having so many landmarks and attractions?
- ★ Can you think of any negative impacts these popular sites might have?








# Create your own attraction

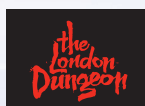
## TASK 1



Thinking about London as a hugely popular tourist destination, write a list of pros and cons of popular attractions and landmarks.

Use the icons below to help you to consider both the positive and negative effects that new attractions can have on the local area as well as the city or country as a whole.

	Pros
	Cons
	Pros
	Cons
	Pros
	Cons



# Create your own attraction

## TASK 1 - Continued

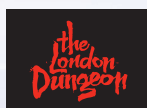


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	Pros
	Cons
	Pros
	Cons
	Pros
	Cons



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# Create your own attraction

## TASK 2



The London Eye

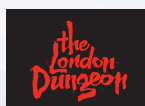
David Marks and Julia Barfield came up with the idea for the London Eye by entering a competition. Imagine you are going to enter a competition for a new attraction in London. Use the Proposal for New Attraction Worksheet below to ensure that you consider both the positive and negative impact that a new tourist attraction may bring.

Use the table below to help you to plan for your new London attraction. Try to include as much detail as you can to wow the judges of the competition!

Details	Information
Name of attraction:	
Purpose:	
Design features:	



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# Create your own attraction

## TASK 2 - Continued

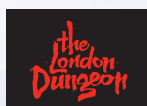


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Details	Information
Construction timeline:	
Estimated costs:	
Environmental factors:	



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# Create your own attraction

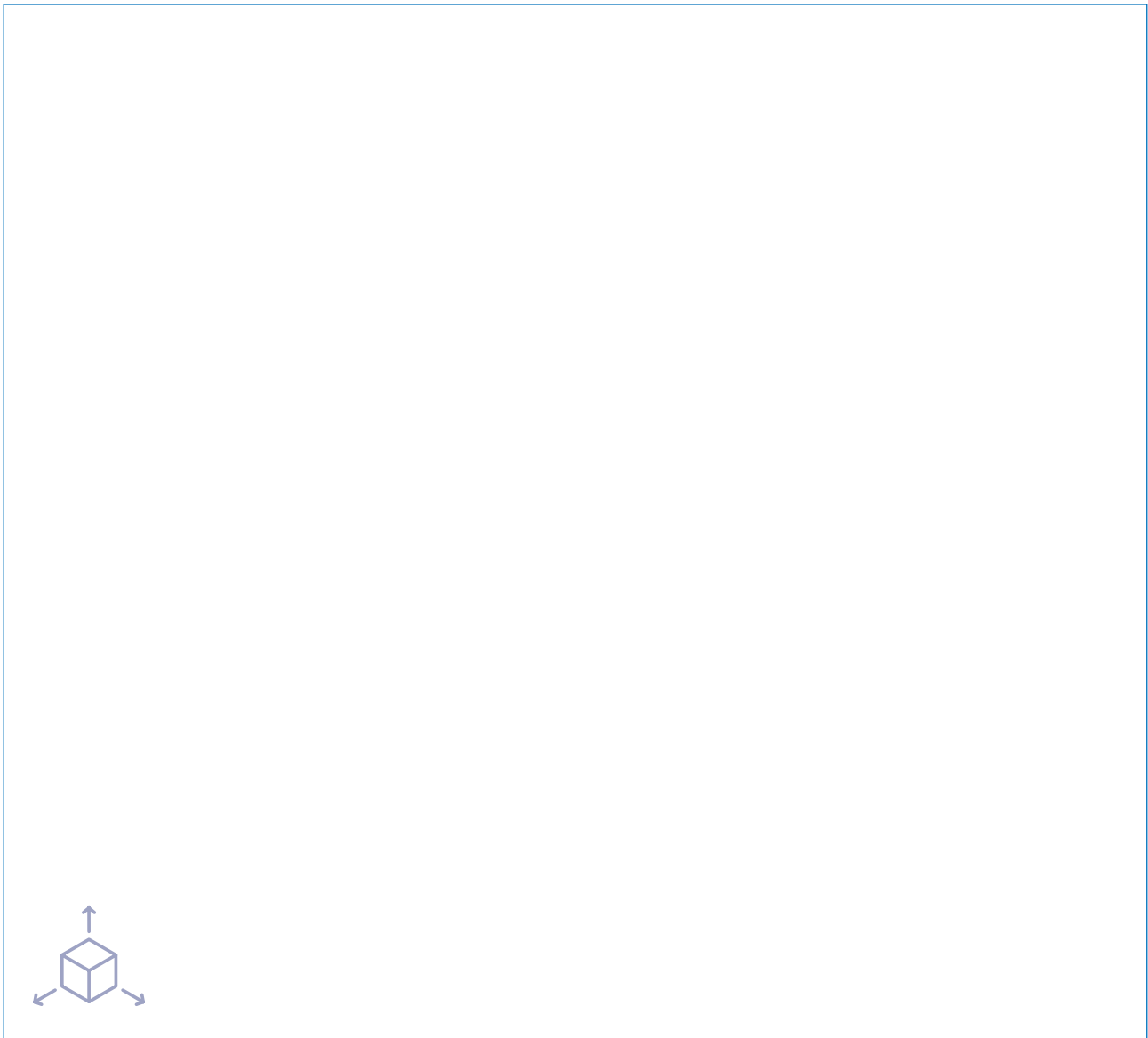
## TASK 3



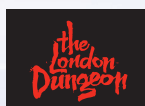
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As part of your proposal, you have been asked to create a 3D model of your attraction to present to the judging panel. Create your model using a scale, for example: 1 cm = 10m.

This will give judges an idea of how it will fit into the London skyline.



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# Create your own attraction

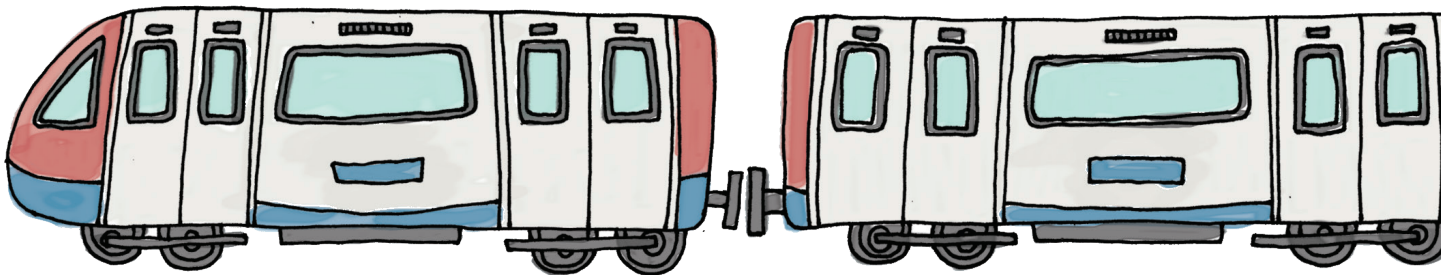
## TASK 3 EXTENSION



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Just like a contestant on Dragons' Den, write a one-minute pitch that you will give to the judges when you present your 3D model.

Try to make it as informative and persuasive as possible!



## TASK 4

Leave all the 3D models out on the desks next to their proposals so that your classmates can walk around and you can admire each other's work.

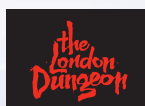
If you have completed the extension activity, perform your pitch to a small audience or the whole class.

End the lesson by voting for which attraction you think should win the competition.

How will the different attractions you have created compare to the London Eye itself? You'll soon find out...



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# TAKE LEARNING TO NEW HEIGHTS

## Teacher Information



You are now ready to visit:

# The London Eye

IF YOU HAVEN'T BOOKED YOUR VISIT ALREADY, DISCOVER OUR EDUCATIONAL VISIT BENEFITS:

**Educational workshops**

**School rates from £9.95 per pupil**

**Two free pre-visit teacher tickets\***

**Free supporting risk assessment**

**Free teacher ratio**

**Free supporting lesson activities and ideas**

UPGRADE YOUR VISIT TO INCLUDE A WORKSHOP...

### KS2 Discovery Workshop

Focus on history, art, DT, english, geography and maths

Pupils will:

- ★ Learn more about the locations, history and architecture of London's landmarks including The London Eye
- ★ Utilise the surrounding views to add context to human and physical geography
- ★ Work together to create a landmark locator of the city

### KS3 Discovery Workshop

Focus on geography, DT, maths and art

Pupils will:

- ★ Add context to human and physical geography and geography fieldwork, e.g. understanding more about the River Thames and its impact on the development of London
- ★ Learn more about the designers and engineers behind London's iconic buildings and bridges
- ★ Be inspired by the architecture and features of London's skyline as the stimulus to produce creative artwork

START PLANNING YOUR SCHOOL TRIP TODAY...

[londoneye.com/schools](http://londoneye.com/schools)



\* Bookings made must be paid in full to receive two teacher planning tickets. Please note: Prices and availability are correct at time of going to print.

## POST-VISIT LESSON 1

# Changing skylines

### Recap questions:

- ★ What did you enjoy most about your visit to the London Eye?
- ★ What did you learn about London's skyline on your visit?



# Changing skylines

## TASK 1



Sketch a drawing of your own local skyline, then compare it to the skyline you drew of London in Pre-Visit Lesson 1. Are there any similarities between the sketches? What are the main differences?

Think about how your skyline may have changed over time and how it may look in the future.

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin blue border, intended for the student to draw their own local skyline.



# Changing skylines

## TASK 2



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To show how the London skyline has changed over the years, create a chronological timeline of as many London attractions and landmarks as you can, based on the year they were built. Start with the oldest, working up to the most recent to open its doors!



# Changing skylines

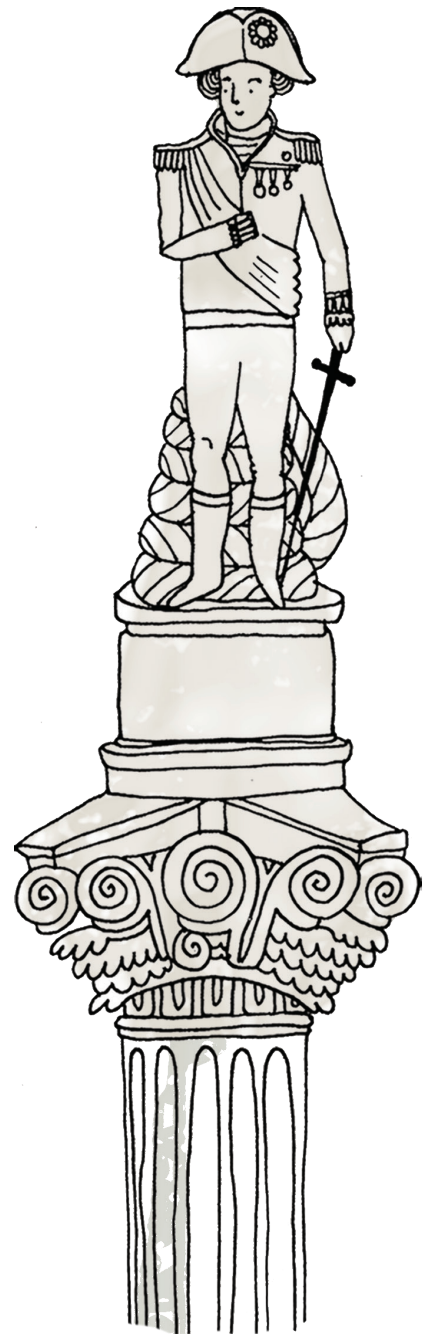
## TASK 3



During your trip to the London Eye, you will have seen or walked past lots of different human and physical features of London's geography.

Use the Geographical Features Worksheet to identify these features.

Now, bringing together all your resources from the London Eye and the work you have done in class, create a map of London including as many landmarks as possible. Make sure you use a scale for your map and a key to point out as many human and physical features as you can.



# Changing skylines



## TASK 3 RESOURCE: GEOGRAPHICAL FEATURES WORKSHEET

Sort out the list below into human or physical geographical features. Write them onto the diagram below and use this to help you create your own map of London in the second part of the task.

GEOGRAPHICAL FEATURES				
River	Road	Airport	Bridge	
Tube station	Lake	Park	Woodland	

**HUMAN**

**PHYSICAL**



# Changing skylines

## TASK 3 EXTENSION

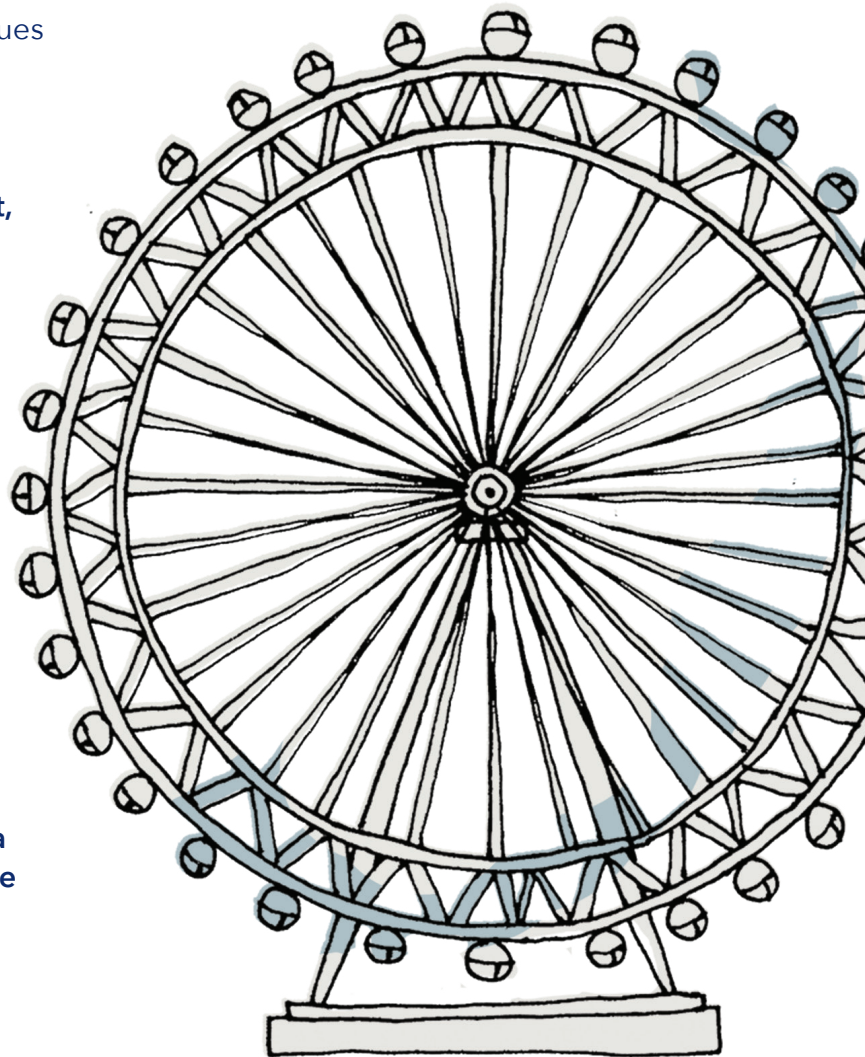


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Use your map to decide upon the perfect location for the attraction that you developed in Pre-Visit Lesson 2. Take into account things like:

- ★ Are there good transport links to your attraction?
- ★ Are there other landmarks that tourists could visit nearby?
- ★ Is there any danger of overcrowding if you build in this area?
- ★ Are there any other environmental issues that you need to take into account?

When you have decided the perfect spot, mark 'X' on the map of where you will build your attraction.

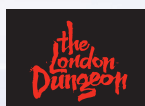


## TASK 4

As a class, discuss what you have learned over your lessons and your visit to the London Eye. Decide which London landmark you would like to visit next and why. Ask your teacher to share some of your work on social media to encourage other schools to experience the London Eye and skyline too!



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Discover these additional inspirational free lesson plans from Merlin Schools London.



## Media & Fake News

An exploration of the media, fake news and celebrity culture.

**Ages 7-13**

Stretch your pupils' English subject knowledge by delving deeper into the complex world of the media, and develop their critical literacy skills...

- ★ Pre-visit Lesson 1: Celebrity Culture and Bias
- ★ Pre-visit Lesson 2: Lies and the Truth
- ★ Post-visit lesson 3: Using Media Responsibly

DOWNLOAD AT:

[madametussauds.com/education](http://madametussauds.com/education)



## The Natural World

Dive Deep into a world of underwater discovery.

**Ages 7-11**

Develop a love for the natural world at SEA LIFE London...

- ★ Pre-visit Lesson 1: Meeting our SEA LIFE creatures
- ★ Pre-visit Lesson 2: Creature Needs
- ★ Post-visit lesson 3: A Trip around the World

DOWNLOAD AT:

[visitsealife.com/london/schools](http://visitsealife.com/london/schools)

# Continue the magic of learning!

Discover these additional inspirational free lesson plans from Merlin Schools London.



## Building Stories

Step into story construction.

### Ages 5-9

Discover the tools behind creating a story, exploring how to plot events and to empathise with characters through drama and role-play...

- ★ Pre-visit Lesson 1: Introducing Fairy Tales
- ★ Pre-visit Lesson 2: Characters in Fairy Tales
- ★ Post-visit lesson 3: Magical Settings

DOWNLOAD AT:

[shreksadventure.com/schools](http://shreksadventure.com/schools)



## Script Writing and Performance

Meet some of London's Most Infamous Characters.

### Ages 12-14

Gain exclusive insight into one of the Capital's most immersive and exciting attractions, as they step into the shoes of the London Dungeon show curation team...

- ★ Pre-visit Lesson 1: A Horrible Cast of Characters
- ★ Pre-visit Lesson 2: Frightening Scenes and Showdowns
- ★ Post-visit lesson 3: Stories from Inside the Dungeon

DOWNLOAD AT:

[thedungeons.com/london/schools](http://thedungeons.com/london/schools)



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