

### Introduction

Welcome to Stanley Mills!

Stanley Mills is an 18th-century cotton mill on the banks of the River Tay. It has recently been re-opened by Historic Scotland as a new visitor centre. This resource has been produced to allow users to discover more about the mill. This website is part of a package of educational materials developed to support understanding of the site and is suitable for learners of all ages. However, it is particularly suited to teachers and pupils P4-S2. It can be used by school groups who are planning to visit the site and also by those who are only able to make a 'virtual' visit.

The resource allows users to find out more about the history of Stanley Mills and the people who worked there and to investigate some of the objects they used. It also provides opportunities to explore water power and to trace the process of cotton production, from the plant to a range of finished products. Animations and audio snippets bring the mills and its stories vividly to life.

### A Curriculum for Excellence

The content of this resource supports the Curriculum for Excellence in the following areas:

- *Social Subjects: People, past events and societies*, through its evidence-based investigation of a historic site;
- *Social Subjects: People, place and environment*, through demonstration of land use through the ages;
- *Science: Energy in the Environment*, through demonstrating sustainable energy use and transfer;
- *Technology*, through showing how technology has developed to meet a range of changing needs.

As part of a wider scheme of work, which may include a site visit, this resource will help to develop

- successful learners,
- confident individuals,
- responsible citizens and
- effective contributors.

### Content overview

The best way to find out what is in this resource is to spend some time exploring it yourself. There are six parts to the resource, which are briefly described below:

#### Introduction

This section sets the scene, explains the background to the mills and shows a short animation of the mills in action. When this is finished, users are presented with a menu of options to explore:

### Buildings

Users can enjoy a 'virtual tour' of the main buildings at Stanley Mills. Modern and archive photographs, together with oral history from the workers who used the buildings help to give a flavour of the site as it is today and as it used to be in the past.

### People

Here visitors can find out about some of the many men, women and children who worked at Stanley Mills over the years. Visitors can listen to audio interview extracts, take part in interactive challenges and investigate evidence relating to a selection of these people.

### Water power

Water power is at the heart of Stanley Mills. This section demonstrates the technology of water power with a clearly labelled illustration which is also animated to show the transferral of water power into the building.

### Cotton

Stanley Mills was one of Scotland's first big cotton mills. The mills produced a range of cotton products right through its history until the 1960s. This section allows users to investigate the process of cotton manufacture, from the cotton plant to the finished product.

### Artefacts/Objects

A number of historic objects have survived at Stanley Mills – from large-scale machines to smaller, more personal items. Here visitors can investigate a range of key objects.

## **Using the resource – suggestions for pupil activities**

There are a number of ways in which this resource could be used in the classroom.

If your class is able to visit Stanley Mills, the resource can be used in the following ways:

- To prepare your class for their visit, so that they arrive with some knowledge of the cotton manufacture process, for example, and with some background information about key events and people at the Mills.
- To allow pupils to set their own questions for investigation on site – for example, what can be seen today of the wheel pits? How deep is the lade?
- To consolidate on-site learning after the visit, providing source material for further presentation work.

If your class is not able to visit Stanley Mills, this resource can be used in the following ways:

- As a rich source of evidence for personal or whole-class research on Scotland's industrial past
- As a source of inspiration for imaginative writing or expressive work

The resource can be explored whole-class via an interactive white-board, or pupils can work alone or in pairs to investigate the resource independently. Ideally, they should be

approaching the resource for a specific purpose, to find out something for a class or individual piece of research.

### **Visiting Stanley Mills**

Stanley Mills welcomes visits from schools. A teacher's resource pack is available which includes suggestions for preparatory and follow-up activities as well as notes for a teacher-led site tour.

Two types of visit are currently available for schools at Stanley Mills:

- a **general visit** which is led by the class teacher
- **activity sessions** which are led by relevant experts.

General visits can be booked directly with Stanley Mills on 01738 828268.

Activity sessions are advertised in the Education Schools Activity Programme (see [http://www.historic-scotland.gov.uk/index/education\\_unit/primaryactivities.htm](http://www.historic-scotland.gov.uk/index/education_unit/primaryactivities.htm)) and can be booked by contacting Historic Scotland Education Unit on 0131 668 8793.