

## CASE STUDY

# EXPLORING THE PRESELIS

The school initially used the activity on Tirlun. However, learners wanted to find out more about a local tourist attraction, Castell Henllys Iron Age Village.

### Footsteps through time



#### Enterprising, creative contributors

NYW: I can connect and apply my knowledge to create ideas and products.

I can give of my energy and skills so that other people will benefit.

Castell Henllys Iron Age Village is an *established* visitor centre and *heritage* site near Newport in north Pembrokeshire where the experience promises to take the visitor back in time and *immerse* the senses in Iron Age life. It is the only *reconstructed* Iron Age village in the UK where the roundhouses and *granary* have been built on the site of the original post holes. The hill-fort has also become one of the most *prominent* images of Welsh prehistory.



Learners discussed the questions:

- What do we mean by pre-history?
- How do we know what life was like during this time?
- Why are there three different time periods that make up Stone Age times?
- How do we know that the landscape changed during these times? Why did it change?
- What can you say about the length of time of pre-history compared to times that followed the Roman invasion of Wales?

They then thought about why historic sites such as Castell Henllys are important in the modern world, before considering why people visit Castell Henllys.

Learners were told that Castell Henllys has a problem, due to it making a loss of £20,000 each year.

They were told that it was owned by Pembrokeshire Coast National Park, who make up the shortfall. Also, that not much has changed in 20 years apart from improvements to the Visitor Centre, the building of one hut and general repairs. All the activities are the same.

Learners were tasked with thinking about what needs to happen. They were given some ideas including archaeological, a herb garden, an Iron Age camping experience and designing a new hut for the site. Once learners had designed each of these and ideas for activities, they composed emails to Pembrokeshire Coast National Park laying out their ideas.

Here's the teacher's ideas for the activities the learners could do by engaging with the task.

## Activities

- Video –Positives and negatives of the site. - Castell Henllys. Make iMovie.
- Experts –engaging experience – YGG take over. COAST TO COAST ACTIVE READING.
- Voice 21 –What can we learn from the Celts when trying to become more sustainable citizens – Consensus circle – Trios.
- **Supply pictures - make an iMovie –include Welsh.**
- Artefacts –what can we tell about the Iron Age time by looking at the artefact? - dig catalogue artefacts, record observations answer questions bucket or tray of soil. - identify period.
- Education Officer –improve the site –no signs/information/ quiz.
- **WALK through herbs –gather into a basket –place in jars –label with what they could cure.**
- **Design (numeracy) 3 gardens –3 different purposes –plant dyes, cooking, medicine.**
- **TIMELINE / Map.**
- **Model huts –area –model –Diameter of huts at Castell Henllys –recreate an accurate model.**
- **Warrior paint –symbols???**
- **Rotational symmetry designs.**