

MAPPING MEMORIES



WORKSHOP 1B FACILITATOR GUIDE

This guide accompanies the Mapping Memories Workshop 1B plan. It is intended to help you to facilitate the session and provides more information on the Lockdown Landscapes project. Please feel encouraged to adapt the workshop plan to best suit the needs of your group. Although the workshops are designed to be completed in an hour, the contents can also be spread over a longer period of time depending on your group and setting.

Before the workshop

Health and Safety

Please be mindful of participant health and safety during your workshop, considering the setting of the session and the needs of the group. The health and safety guidance attached to this pack can be used to assess any risks if needed.

Materials

This workshop can be done with: pencils, felt tip pens, paper, scissors and glue. If available, a wider variety of materials can be used such as paints, clay, natural materials from outside and digital devices such as phones and tablets. The form of the maps can be decided by the facilitator or by the group themselves.

The resource also suggests the use of natural objects to bring landscapes and memories to mind (stones, shells, pine cones, sticks, fossils, dried seed heads, bark, leaves). It will be useful gather these in advance if possible.

Set up

You will need a screen to show some examples of maps and key, or you can print these out (colour or black and white) for the participants to have one each or to share in pairs. Flat surfaces or tables are needed for each participant to do the mapping activity on.

Consider the atmosphere and environment of the workshop. Due to the sensitive subject matter and visualisation exercise, a safe space is needed. A safe space is defined as a place or environment in which a person or category of people can feel confident that they will not be exposed to discrimination, criticism, harassment, or any other emotional or physical harm.

During the workshop

Sensitivity

When introducing the workshop, it is important to acknowledge that the session might bring up upsetting or difficult memories. Return to this at the end to offer time or a space to come and talk to you or a trusted adult if needed. For more guidance, please refer to the wellbeing support document.

Key and location

Introducing the concept of map keys will enable the group to use them as part of their work, and help them to understand a wider range of maps after they have taken part.

Sharing

Making sure there is enough time to share the maps and their attached stories is very important to both the workshop and the wider project. This will allow you as the facilitator to understand the broader narrative and meaning attached to the created maps.

After the workshop

Taking five minutes directly after the workshop to note any memorable stories or aspects that came up for a lot of the participants might be useful, and could make sharing these with the wider project quicker and easier.

This is a collective project which aims to gather the stories of thousands of people from across the nation. After taking part, participants are encouraged to share their stories with the Arboretum online at thenma.org.uk/lockdown-landscapes

If the group are unable to share their maps and stories themselves, then the facilitator can share on behalf of the participants. Photos of maps or of outdoor spaces can be uploaded to the Arboretum website too.

All of the responses will be brought together, creating a national archive of community experiences that will inspire the ways in which the Arboretum remembers and reflects on the pandemic in the future.



