

# Art days, Storytelling visits and History sessions with real objects

leading to Art & Literacy activities

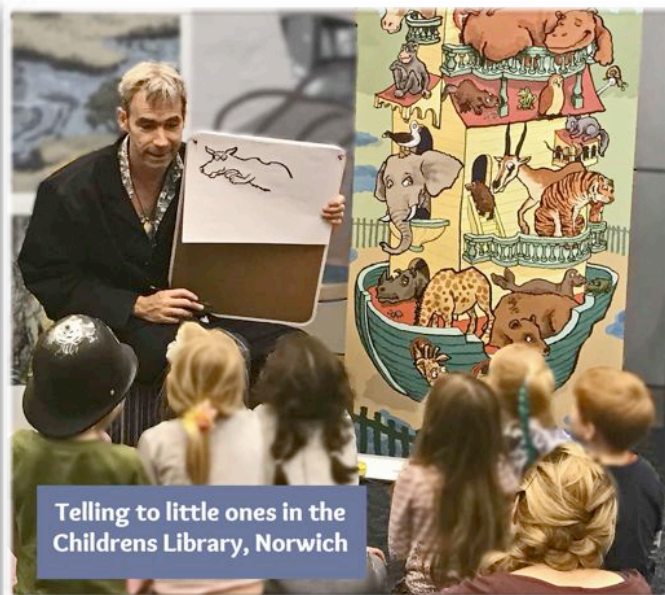


I've worked with schools for 18 years, in the Norfolk Museum Service and the Inspire Discovery Centre, Norwich (closed in 2011). Inspire also provided outreach to schools across East Anglia. So I have a very broad experience of primary schools!

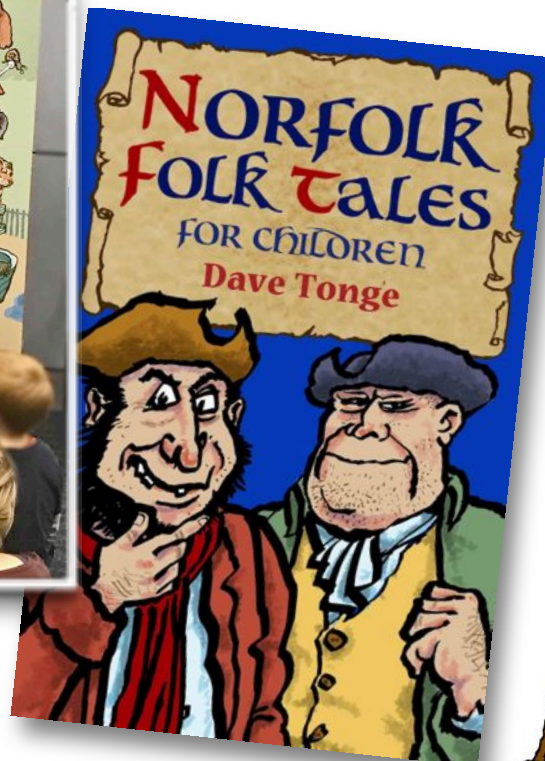
I am also an illustrator and cartoonist, working since the 90s in children's books and other fields of media publishing.

I now visit schools and museums as a storyteller, artist and historical educator. I can offer a range of full or half day visits, across different year groups. You will find details of my lesson plans below on some of the frequent History topics, Storytellings and Art.

I'm also happy to create sessions on request for different themes and topics, in collaboration with teachers.



Telling to little ones in the  
Childrens Library, Norwich



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# Storytelling

with drawings done before  
your very eyes!

**Full or half days**

for all ages & can be for specific  
topics



**Romans & Greeks:** the Romans stole the Greek gods & goddesses and changed their names, but loved their tales! Bickering, selfish heroes have adventures, and the gods with their magical powers just can't stop interfering in the lives of us little people

**Egyptians:** as well as Pharaohs and too many gods, there were some ordinary people living by the Nile as well, and they liked to tell tales

**Celts:** galloping chariots, warrior queens, beautiful clothes, boastful champions and magic in every green hill – the wildest, fastest tales of all!

**Anglo Saxons & Vikings:** The Saxons favourite tale is Beowulf, and everybody knows Vikings raided our land, roaring & swinging axes, but is this all they did? After considering the real story of these Norse people, we have fun with their tales of giants, dwarves and magic, drawn from our main source, the writings of Icelandic Norse folk. Odin and Thor

feature in their mythology, but they also wrote histories of their own exploration and war, known as the Sagas

**Olde Tales:** which can also be called Folk Tales. Poor folk outwitting the rich, farmers who find treasure, greedy priests, brave kids, riddles, dragons, trolls, tricksters, unwelcome visitors & other tales, told and re-told over the centuries

**Animal Tales:** a must-have in every storyteller's bag, from around the world and always good fun for a drawing or two



# ROMAN BRITAIN



Handle real Roman pot sherds, found in Britain

**Full day or half day, Yr4 and upwards**

Relates to Literacy, History (inc Local), Art & Mathematics



We all know about Emperors & Centurions, but not everybody in Britannia was a soldier! Ordinary people, shopkeepers, slaves and farmers, leave little trace of themselves, but wherever there were people, there is pottery.

We will handle and work with **real** Roman pot sherds, found in Britain.

## **Lesson plan :**

### **Introductory slideshow & talk**

- see how pottery fitted into everyday life, and learn the words we shall need to use
- learn the types of Roman pottery we find in Britain (we will use three)

### **Activity**

- handle real sherds and try to identify them, based on our new knowledge
- study them like archaeologists, to complete descriptive Reports, with drawings & measurements, learning to use the Rim Chart

Early finishers can take the "can you re-assemble these (modern) pots?" challenge using sherds and sticky tape. (NB all sherds have safe, non-sharp edges)



# ROMAN BRITAIN



Handle real Roman coins, with magnifiers

**Full day or half day, Yr4 and upwards**

*Relates to Literacy, History (inc Local) and Art*



## Lesson plan

### Introductory slideshow & talk:

- how to look at the coins, their designs and Latin words
- introduce the words used to describe coins in numismatism (the study of coins)

### Activity:

- share out the coins for handling & study
- examine them like numismatists, using magnifiers. Complete descriptive Reports, similar to the Pottery ones, with drawings & measurements
- design your own coin, with you featuring as the important Roman!

If its a **full** day, there may be time for **Storytelling, Roman & Greek tales** with drawings. Bickering, selfish heroes & the gods with magical powers, who just can't stop interfering in the lives of us mortals. Greedy King Minos, Atalanta the great huntress, nasty king Tarquinius...



# VIKINGS? YOU MEAN THE NORSE

Handle fun, replica objects  
art & literacy activities  
storytelling

**Half day, morning or afternoon** *relates to History & Art*



If Viking means raid, why didn't they go home with their booty? Lets consider the sophisticated **Norse** culture behind these migrants to our land, and use my **replica Lewis chess pieces** as inspiration for art to illustrate a tale which I will tell.

## Lesson plan

**Slideshow**, a brief look at:

- Scandinavia, why did Norse people come here?
- daily life, they were farmers & craftspeople
- a rich culture of ornament, fine clothes, architecture & stories
- the Lewis Chess Set, an archaeological find from Scotland, thought to have been made in Trondheim, Norway circa 990AD



## Activity:

- handle my **full size Lewis chess replicas** (there are enough for a whole class)
- I will tell a fun, lively tale of how poetry & song came into the world
- lets illustrate the tale, on paper with my pre-printed Norse decorative borders
- use some of the previous images and the Lewis figures (below) for inspiration



# art WORKSHOP

## from Storytelling

A simple way for everyone to contribute to a picture for the classroom, from a range of different tales (Egyptian, Celtic, Greek/Roman, Saxon, Viking, Pirates, and other topics)

**Full day, for all years** (not Reception & Yr1) *relates to Art & Literacy*

### Lesson plan:

- we discuss the topic in question, elucidating what the children already know
- I introduce any important words to be used in the tale, and show/explain any necessary details (eg below how wheat is sown, harvested and milled)
- we have the tale



*For this tale about growing food, I provided the figures of Lizzy to colour & cut. You can see some of the new words amongst the drawings*

- we then decide what characters and things we need to draw for our picture to relate the tale. Everyone picks what to draw (or to colour in on my pre-prepared sheets, for non drawers) and we get busy drawing, coloring and cutting
- we assemble the big picture, which can also include the important words
- the picture can be in sections, and of a size and shape to suit the available classroom space!



Tales galore: The Minotaur, a dashing piratical gentleman, and Lizzy in preparation