



Activity

Suitable for
Ages 8+

iSpy Activity Pack

Archaeology is all about observation and discovering interesting things from the past on all sorts of different scales.



When you've collected at least 600 points, email yac@yac-uk.org and tell us what you spotted, and where. We'll then email you a brilliant personalised YAC iSpy Champion certificate that you can print out at home!

A tiny prehistoric worked flint is archaeology but so is a huge industrial building. Archaeological iSpy challenges you to get out and about and spot archaeology! Over the next four pages, you'll find example photographs of objects, sites, buildings, modes of transport and people. The photos and descriptions provide clues to help you discover archaeology wherever you live. You may have to visit museums to spot some of the things! For every item that you tick off, you'll collect points – the easiest items to spot get fewer points, and the more difficult get you more points.



If you can, do send us photos of yourself at or with some of your 'spotted' items – we'd love to celebrate some YAC iSpy Champions on our YAC website and social media



Archaeologist excavating

40 points

Archaeologists excavating on a site. If you can spot archaeologists excavating, you get 40 points!



Roman mosaic

40 points

Roman mosaics are sometimes unearthed during archaeological excavations. Some mosaics are repeated patterns, others show detailed pictures; all are made up of tiny square stone pieces called tesserae. You may need to visit a museum to find a mosaic.



Archaeologist doing geophysics

40 points

This archaeologist is doing a magnetic gradiometer survey. The equipment detects small variations in the earth's magnetic field, which helps to find remains beneath the ground.



Re-enactor

50 points

Re-enactors help bring history to life by dressing up in the clothes of people in the past and by using replicas of their tools and equipment. These re-enactors are dressed as Roman soldiers.



Prehistoric flint

40 points

Mesolithic and Neolithic flint tools and arrowheads are amongst the oldest archaeological evidence. You will probably need to visit a museum to spot a prehistoric flint.



Narrow boat on a canal

50 points

Narrow boats were used on canals from the 18th century. Most goods were moved around on canals before railways were invented. These days most narrow boats are used for holidays and trips.

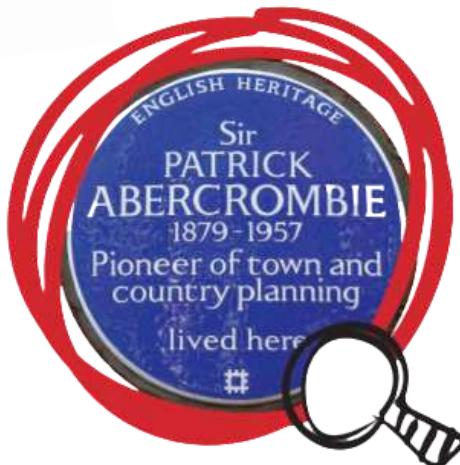


Bench mark

20 points

Ordnance Survey benchmarks record the height of places in relation to a fixed point known as Ordnance Datum (OD). In Great Britain, OD is set from a place in Cornwall called Newlyn.

Archaeologists use the bench marks to help them plan and survey sites accurately.



Blue plaque

20 points

Blue plaques on buildings mark places with a connection to famous historical people, for example where they lived or worked, or were born or died. They recognise all kinds of different people: authors, inventors, politicians, sports people, actors and more.



Egyptian mummy

40 points

A trip to a museum – like the British Museum in London – will be necessary to spot an Egyptian mummy



Archaeological trowel

40 points

An archaeologist's trowel is their most-prized tool! Archaeologists sometimes have competitions to see who has the smallest trowel, as it shows that it has been worn down by trowelling through lots of layers on many sites!



Greek Vase

40 points

Ancient Greece was famous for its vases. Many were decorated in red and black, showing pictures of people. A visit to a museum will be needed to find a Greek vase.



Tudor building

40 points

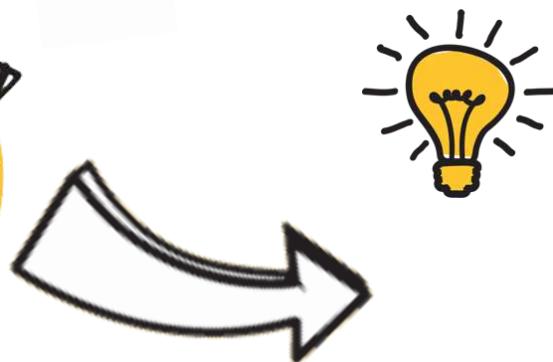
Tudor buildings are those built during the Tudor period (1485-1603). Many Tudor buildings are 'half-timbered' and feature distinctive black and white stripes.



A gravestone that predates 1800

50 points

Finding gravestones is an easy task – finding one that dates earlier than 1800 is a bit more of a job! Make sure you take an adult with you when exploring a graveyard – they can help you hunt too!



Milestone

20 points

Milestones are markers along roads that give the distances between places. Some Roman milestones are still standing today!



Blue plaque

50 points

Concrete pillboxes and other defensive structures were built in Britain during the Second World War to try and ensure that the country was not invaded by the Germans. About 6500 of those structures still survive, many of which can be found along the coast.



Prehistoric monument

50 points

Great Britain has many prehistoric monuments including; chambered cairns, passage graves, dolmens and long barrows; Iron Age hillforts; and standing stones and circles.



Ruins of a medieval abbey

50 points

Many medieval abbeys, monasteries, priories, convents and friaries in England, Wales and Ireland were destroyed during the reign of Henry VIII between 1536 and 1541.

Visit www.yac-uk.org for more!

Photographs courtesy of Wikimedia Commons





Disused industrial building

30 points

Industrial buildings can be found all over the country and include factories, warehouses and mills.



Pier

50 points

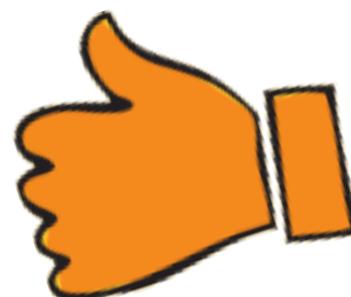
Pleasure piers were built in England, during the 19th century because railways were bringing masses of people to the seaside for holidays. At many Victorian seaside resorts, the tide goes out so far that the sea would often not be visible from the beach. Piers were the answer!



Disused industrial building

100 points

The Spitfire is a single-seater British aircraft used by the Allies during the Second World war. You can see Spitfires at lots of museums across the county. To earn 100 points it must be flying though!



Disused industrial building

30 points

Gothic architecture was common during the medieval period. Gothic buildings often have pointed arched windows.



Disused industrial building

20 points

War memorials remember the millions of men, women and children who died in times of war. Statues, village halls, swimming pools, gardens, playing fields and even giant pictures carved into hillsides in chalk can be war memorials.