Most people look up at the beautiful windows and high vaulted ceilings of Westminster Abbey. Whilst we hope you do this today, why not also spend some time looking beneath your feet and finding out some interesting things that would otherwise go unnoticed?

Walk through the cloisters to the church to begin your trail.

The map will help guide you around the Abbey. The trail starts at number 1 at the Great West Door. Follow the blue dots in numerical order.
Stand with your back to the Great West Door.

For hundreds of years people have been standing exactly where you stand now.
What kind of people might have visited this church before you? Use the pictures to help you.

Monarchs
Kings and queens have come here to be crowned since 1066. Sometimes royal weddings happen here too.

Monks
Men who lived quietly at the Abbey. They spent most of their day praying to God and helping sick people.

Pilgrims
People who traveled a long way to pray inside the Abbey.

Answers

- Orb and Sceptre: Precious objects used in coronation ceremonies
- Wooden Cross: Symbol of Christianity
- Quill: A pen made from a bird’s feather
- Scrip: Leather pouch to store food and money
MY FEET! Draw a picture of your own feet and say why you are visiting Westminster Abbey today.
There are over 3,000 people buried or remembered here. These include **thirteen queens** and **seventeen kings!** There are memorials to all sorts of people from poets to scientists. One of Britain’s most famous prime ministers has a memorial stone right where you are standing…can you find it?

**Winston Churchill** was famous for his inspiring speeches during the Second World War:

*Can you complete this line from one of his speeches praising the brave pilots of the Royal Air Force during the Second World War?*

Never in the field of _______ conflict, was so much _______ by so _______ to so _______

(few, human, owed, many)
There is only one grave in the Abbey that we ask you not to walk over: **the grave of the Unknown Warrior**. We don’t know anything about this soldier: Was he a general? Was he a foot soldier? Was he a teenager or was he an older man? We will never know. All we know is that he fought in the First World War (1914-1918). He symbolises all those who have lost their lives in war. The grave is surrounded by red poppies.

**Why is the poppy used to help us remember soldiers who have died?**

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Can you find this grave in the middle of the Nave floor?

**David Livingstone** was the first European to discover an amazing waterfall in Africa.

Which name do you think he chose for it?

- [ ] Livingstone’s Shower
- [ ] Victoria Falls
- [ ] David’s Discovery
Look around you and find one other grave or memorial stone that interests you. Sketch or make a note about it here.

Look out for the grave of Isaac Newton (to the left of the archway). Newton was a famous inventor, scientist and mathematician. Can you match the picture clue on his memorial to his achievements?

He invented the Reflective Telescope.
He was Master of the Royal Mint (coins).
He wrote down his laws of gravity.
Using a prism, he established that light is made up of different colours.

There are many other scientists remembered near to Newton. Write down three other names. You can look them up later to find out what they discovered.

1
2
3
Walk through the archway and you will notice the floor changes to a pattern of black and white squared tiles. Keep walking until you are facing the High Altar. The beautiful pavement in front of you is called the **Cosmati Pavement**.

The Cosmati Pavement is very precious. It was made nearly 800 years ago. It is made from coloured glass and precious stones. The Coronation Chair is placed in the centre of this pavement on coronation day. Every king and queen is crowned on this spot.

Identify as many shapes in this pattern as you can and draw them here

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You are standing in the centre of the Abbey. Look around you: what shape was the Abbey built in? Why do you think this was?
Behind the High Altar you will see the tombs of kings and queens. You can walk around these tombs now by following the route on the plan. As you walk try to imagine pilgrims from long ago walking the very same route you are walking today.

Look at the floor. It is very worn in places. Why do you think this is?

Pilgrims came to the Abbey to pray next to the shrine of St Edward the Confessor. He was a king but also a saint. Many of the pilgrims had travelled long distances to get here.

Think about a special journey you have made to visit a person or a place. Write a sentence about it here.

The steps at the east end of the Abbey will take you up into the Lady Chapel. This is a beautiful, colourful space.
The chapel was built about 500 years ago by the Tudor family.

Use the clues to find out which of the Tudor monarchs are buried here.

He won the Battle of Bosworth. Her nickname was ‘Gloriana’ and she reigned for 55 years.

King

Queen
She was the first English Queen to be crowned in her own right (not because she married a king).

Queen

The longed for son of Henry VIII. He was king for only 6 years and died young.

King

I'm the most famous Tudor king and I'm not actually here! I chose to be buried at Windsor Castle next to my dear wife Jane Seymour. My name is King

When you have finished looking around the Lady Chapel, come down the stairs to the ground level and turn immediately to your left into a side chapel.

Find the tomb of a knight called Sir Humphrey Stanley. He is buried here because he was a good friend of King Henry VII.

Label the parts of the armour by drawing a line from the word to the picture.

Sebatons
Cuisse
Breastplate
Sword
Chainmail
On leaving this chapel, turn to your left and follow the route. This is a famous part of the Abbey called Poets’ Corner. Famous writers are buried and remembered here.

Find these names if you can:

☐ Robert Browning
☐ Edward Lear
☐ Alfred, Lord Tennyson

Complete the following famous quotes:

‘Oh to be in __________ now that April’s there’
Robert Browning

‘The owl and the __________ went to sea in a beautiful pea-green boat’
Edward Lear

‘Tis better to have __________ and lost than never to have loved at all’
Lord Tennyson

(loved, England, pussycat)

Do you have a favourite book or poem?
Write down the title here:


On leaving the Abbey church by the door in Poets’ Corner, you can continue your visit by walking around the Cloisters. This is the covered walkway where the monks used to spend a lot of their time studying and playing games.

Look out for the large black gravestone at the south east corner of the cloisters. There are 26 monks buried underneath it. Can you work out why so many monks died in the year 1348?

As you leave think about the millions of people who have walked where you are walking now. And don’t forget to look down! The most interesting things to look at are often under your feet!