

## Making the Saturnalia film, by Somerton Primary School

The students from Somerton Primary School came to the National Roman Legion Museum in Caerleon as part of the Kids in Museums Takeover Day, 2016. They took over to tell the story of the Roman mid-winter festival of Saturnalia. They wrote, scripted and filmed the video in this collection. They also went behind the scenes to the Museum's store room to have a look at some Roman objects, then chose and photographed these items to help tell the story.

**Create a video:** Use these resources to plan and create a video, on a topic of your choice, to upload to People's Collection Wales. You can also use this website to research your topic. Create a *collection* to include the video and any accompanying *items*, and a *story* to tell us more about the topic. Learn how to upload *items* and create *collections* in our easy to follow [user guides](#). See the [Teacher's Toolbox](#) for tips on how to make the most of the [Digital Competence Framework](#) when forming a project.

### This is how we made the video for Saturnalia

During the day pupils visited the National Roman Legion Museum in Caerleon. They went to see a Roman preparing for the midwinter festival, learn about the customs and compare them to modern midwinter traditions. As part of the day they also went behind the scenes with the curator to select real Roman objects relating to Saturnalia, like gifts that the Romans could have given to each other, to feature in the collection on the People's Collection Wales website alongside the film.

They then worked in a team to create their own video guide. Working with facilitators and teachers, they chose scenes according to what they would like to say about Saturnalia. Then they wrote their own script and selected a cast for each scene.

The two minute video was filmed on an iPad and edited using iMovie. The video was shared on social media, shown in an event at the National Roman Legion Museum to celebrate Saturnalia, and included in a collection alongside photographs of the objects chosen by the school during their visit. We had permission to film and photograph the pupils and filled out permission forms on the day. All the images were within copyright because they were created by the school and of objects owned by the Museum.

See below for suggested lines for each scene, and a template used to storyboard the two minute video.

## Here is the draft story plan we used to help create the story

### Story plan

Possible scenes: Barrack room bedroom, barrack room amour store outside in the garden getting holly.

### Main story

#### Intros:

- Salve, my name is \_\_\_\_\_
- I live in Caerleon in the soldier's barracks I share a room with eight other soldiers.
- We are really looking forward to celebrating saturnalia and feasting! Io Saturnalia!
- We have many gods but Saturnalia is all about our God Saturn.
- In December, we celebrate the god Saturn and thank him for a good harvest this year and pray that he brings us lots for food next year.
- I'm a Roman lady living in Caerleon. My husband is an important man in the army – so I have to get my house ready for Saturnalia so we can enjoy the festival and have a big feast.
- I'm / we are slaves we are working hard preparing for Saturnalia. I can't wait because if I'm lucky my master will serve me food on Saturnalia. Which will make a change!
- If you're not a Roman – you may be wondering why we are wearing these silly hats.
- Our hats are called freed-man's hats. Normally only people that have been freed from slavery wears these hats. But on saturnalia everyone whether rich, poor or slaves wear the hats.
- Slave – It shows that everyone is equal for the day. Even a slave like me. Well that's the idea anyway.

#### Decorations:

- We decorate our houses with holly and branches from evergreen trees.
- We light candles to encourage the sun to come back because the days are getting darker.
- We hang decorations like stars and Janus heads on the trees in our garden.
- Janus is the god of new beginnings – one face looks to the past one to the beginning

**Feast:**

- Posh lady – During saturnalia we have a big feast. I can't wait to tuck into some snails in garlic sauce, stuffed dormice or if we are really lucky some peacocks brains.
- I must make sure my slaves get everything prepared on time!
- Slave – I hope I can get more than bread and water this year. Maybe my master will invite me to the table and serve me food.

**Games and entertainment:**

- Soldier – I'm looking forward to relaxing and playing board games. With my mates.
- Soldier – I can't wait to watch the gladiators fighting down the amphitheatre.
- Soldier – I'm looking forward to drinking and gambling.
- Slave – I'm looking forward to being treated like an equal. If my master is in a good mood?

**Presents:**

- Woman – I've decorated these stars and am going to give them to my sister and her family to decorate their houses.
- Soldier – I'm hoping for some new socks, a candle or if I'm really lucky one of these fancy wax tablets.
- Soldier – I'm going to get my buddy\_\_\_\_\_ a grooming kit because he smells and always has wax in his ears.
- Woman – I'm spoiling my son this year. He is going to get a wooden horse with wheels.
- Another woman – I've got my daughter this doll!

**Ending:**

- However you choose to celebrate the midwinter we hope you have a fantastic festival! From all of us in Caerleon...
- All – (raise glass) Io Saturnalia!
- Slave – To each and every one!

## **Scripting and Storyboarding for People's Collection Wales**

Use this template to plan a video about a topic you'd like to discuss. Collect the information you need to tell your story, and any items that you'd like to photograph and display on the website alongside your video. Then create a story plan!

### **Story plan.**

The story plan will include all the topics you want to cover in the video. It can also include a list of possible scenes, and lines to say in those scenes. The students can decide what happens in each scene and also write a script, either by using suggested lines, or creating a script for each scene from scratch.

### **Intros:**

### **Topics:**

### **Ending:**

## Story board template

No.	Scene	Script	Actors
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			