

Worksheet: Family Plots 1



Graveyards and cemeteries are special places, so make sure you show respect and talk quietly when doing these activities.

Activity 1: How many gravestones can you find?

Look at the dates on the gravestones and fill in the tally chart below. If the cemetery is large, then choose just one part of the cemetery to investigate.

Century	Number of gravestones
1700s	
1800s	
1900s	

Activity 2: What is the oldest gravestone you can find?

Century	Name	Age
1700s		
1800s		
1900s		



Do you think people lived longer in any particular century? Why might this be?

Worksheet: Family Plots 2

Gravestones can tell us about the different families who lived locally. See if you can find a collection of gravestones which share a family name.

Activity 3: Family plots

Families often buried their loved-ones close together. On a separate piece of paper, draw a simple map of the cemetery / graveyard and mark on it all the graves you can find with the same family name. You can do **activity 4** at the same time.

Activity 4: Family history

On a separate sheet of paper, make a list of the names, ages and dates of birth and death written on the gravestones. Also make a note of any carved images or statues. You may like to set your list out in the way shown below:

Name	Age	Date of birth	Date of death	Age at death	Carving or statue

-  Looking at the size, shape of the gravestones and any carvings, do you think the family was wealthy?
-  Do the gravestones tell you what job the people did, or how or where they died?
-  Who in the family lived the longest? Did the men die younger than the women?
-  What does all this tell you about the lives of the people who lived in this area?