

Discovering the past, influencing the future

visiting a Tudor Tithe Barn

3 - 4 year olds, Beach Babies Nursery - LANDBEACH (ENGLAND)

The small village of Landbeach is home to a very special building: a Tudor Tithe Barn dating from the early 16th Century. The preschoolers have visited regularly, enjoying the hidden location, beautiful construction and unique atmosphere of the barn. The barn is currently managed by a group of voluntary trustees, who are keen to restore it in a way that is sympathetic to its history while also promoting use by the local community. The children have met the trustees, and are working alongside them to discover and imagine how the barn might be developed in the future. By playing, sharing stories, making maps and drawings and physically exploring the space, the children have made a real connection with the barn, its past and future. The barn is unfortunately in a state of disrepair, and needs to raise funds in order to carry out the restoration work. The nursery's involvement with the barn demonstrates the value that a historic building can have for even the youngest members of a community, and the children have gained an understanding that preserving our local heritage is a collective responsibility.



It's really big and special and made out of wood and sticks and spiders...



Following a survey, the barn was deemed unsafe to visit until structural work could be carried out. The children wrote an email to the Tithe Barn Trust: *We are feeling sad because the tithe barn has wobbly walls. Is it only one wall? Will it fall down? Will you use a hammer to fix it? Or a screwdriver? Who will fix it?* The trust replied, explaining that money would have to be raised to pay for specialists. The children discussed how to raise money and baked muffins to sell to parents.

It's so nice that the children can be involved in helping the promotion of such a great project... (parent's voice)



The barn is special because there's three doors in it, so you can choose which one you like, and it has lovely bricks on the floor...

