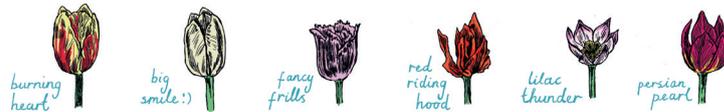




The Great Turkish Tulip Challenge



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Gertrude Jekyll

A Schools' Adventure from
The House of Fairy Tales
October 2017

A
House
of
Fairy Tales
**THINK
iNGS
KITs**
initiative
for
Primary and
Secondary
schools

Have you ever wished ...

... that your school could be more creative and inspiring?

... that the day could be more cross curricular?

... that students could take more charge of their own learning,
following their interests, talents and abilities?

... that students' experience in school was more relevant to their future lives?

... that it was possible to learn science through art and music through maths,
history through physical exercise and *vice versa*?

... that you could teach your students to occasionally fail gloriously,
instead of always succeed with mediocrity?



Have you ever wanted ...

... to throw away the constraints of the curriculum for a day?

If the answer to any of these is 'yes' ...

... then your school should take part in

The Great Turkish Tulip Challenge

... a glorious experiment for schools near The Bowes Museum



We would love to invite your school to take part in the first year of

The Great Turkish Tulip Challenge

This year we are piloting the Challenge to schools within a 50 mile radius of The Bowes Museum. It will subsequently be promoted throughout the UK for Autumn 2017.

We would love you to pioneer it for us.

Why schools near The Bowes Museum?

The Museum will be hosting two exhibitions, created by *The House of Fairy Tales*, from July to November 2017 ...

Turkish Tulips

THE
Clockwork GARDEN

The Clockwork Garden is an immersive and interactive adventure trail in the gardens of The Bowes Museum, with mechanical artworks, whirring installations, strange animations and a puppet theatre.

Broadly aimed at Primary school-age children and their families, it will open on July 29, the same day as *Turkish Tulips*, an exhibition of contemporary tulip artworks curated by Gavin Turk.

Turkish Tulips will be displayed as an art trail throughout the spectacular collections of The Bowes Museum.



Why Turkish Tulips?

Everyone knows that tulips come from Holland. Except that they don't. Tulips actually originate in the mountains of central Asia and were first appreciated by Persian poets and first cultivated by Turkish Sultans in the Ottoman Empire.

Turkish Tulips is a fascinating project exploring the history, geography, economics, science and philosophy of Europe, the Middle East and Asia. Spanning all the curriculum subjects, the metaphor of this simple but symbolic flower follows the Silk Road trade routes established between the Chinese, Persian, Indian and Roman empires, focuses on the incredible popularity of tulips during the Ottoman Empire and examines their arrival into Europe during the Dutch Golden Age, moving on to consider globalisation, migration and associated ecological and environmental challenges.

We are inviting children, young people and their teachers to explore these ideas through a diverse array of material and then make a creative response to what they have just investigated. These responses will be exhibited on the South Bank in London and in The Bowes Museum in County Durham, as well as on a dedicated website.

Then an illustrious panel of judges including some of the artists from the exhibition will award the schools a **Golden Tulip** prize. These will be in three categories – Gold, Silver and Bronze. The best whole class contributions will be given creative collaborators and provocateurs to work with to develop their ideas.

Once these have been developed into plays, puppet shows, films, exhibitions, musical compositions, engineering models, etc., they will be selected for national exhibition spaces as well as presented in the schools themselves.

Turkish Tulips Week

For the first week in October our Garden Philosophers will be on standby to work with schools to deliver **The Great Turkish Tulip Challenge**.

For one or two days during that week each school will be transformed into a giant flower bed of learning. Every classroom will become a Garden Philosophers' Laboratory – planting tulip ideas through games and resources.

Every student will be given different challenges in every different subject from literature, mathematics and science to drama and PE. All normal curricula will be suspended for a couple of glorious immersive days filled with horticulture, economics, history and science.

Students will find out about our fascinating European History from the perspective of the entrepreneurial traders who travelled the Silk Road and our wonderful legacy from Rumi and the philosophers, cultural thinkers and horticulturists from Turkey, Syria and what we in the West call The Middle East or Arabia. In the regions of the world that now more often symbolise oil, war and refugees we discover the rich heritage of the Arabic and Turkish world.

They will learn about the foundations of the Enlightenment in Europe and the Dutch Golden Age, when traditional religious teachings were challenged by the new discoveries of scientific thinking, astronomy and evolution, leading to the establishment of our culture of learning through museums and universities.

Yinka Shonibare MBE, Tulip Field, 2016, digital print with hand-applied gold foil, 42 x 30cm

Artists involved include

Ben Okri
Fiona Banner
Sir Peter Blake
Rob and Nick Carter
Helen Chadwick
Gordon Cheung
Mat Collishaw
Michael Craig-Martin
Adam Dant

Nancy Fouts
Anya Gallacio
Tom Gallant
Benjamin Grant
Mustafa Hulusi
Damien Hirst
Georgie Hopton
Charles Jones
Liliane Lijn
Rory McEwen

Cornelia Parker
Yinka Shonibare MBE
Sarah Staton
Gavin Turk
Philippa van Loon
Jim Hollingworth
Paul Sakoilsky
Dave Swindells
Jojo Tulloch



What is a Thinking Kit?

Thinking Kits are custom-made 'creativity' packs designed by our team of artists, in partnership with a particular organisation or institution. They bring inspiring history, stories, science and games into schools and homes throughout the country. Each Kit's content is inspired by real events and places, with the option that children and their teachers/parents can visit the exhibitions to enrich the learning experience.

This is a brand new initiative for the charity but we have a history of delivering successful and exciting projects with schools, including *Waterwheel* with The Thames Festival in 2010, where we worked with 104 schools across every Greater London borough. The project resulted in 1,881 unique child-generated Think Spaces being uploaded to the website: www.houseoffairytales.org.uk/waterwheel

What's in the Turkish Tulips Thinking Kit?

FOR EACH STUDENT

The Bowes Museum/*Turkish Tulips* edition of
The HoFT Examiner newspaper

full of inspiring information, art, stories, facts, myths, legends, investigations, challenges, puzzles and games – the results of our cross-curricular research to enable learning through play

Thinking Guide

Enter *The House of Fairy Tales* to discover a series of **Thinking Rooms**. From sound studio to stage, laboratory to library, there is a room for everyone, each full of **Thinking Experiments** – challenges, tasks and suggestions for further exploration

Think Space

A sheet for each student to show how they can think for themselves about what they've learned and experienced



FOR TEACHERS

Teachers Thinking Kit Guide

making it easy to use the Kit in every classroom and helping teachers and management to navigate through the Challenge.

Including:

Background information on the content of the Newspaper;

Suggested lesson plans; Curriculum links;

Theme and extension ideas; a **Thinking Guide** for inspired and uninspired students and those with special educational needs; and *The House of Fairy Tales'* **philosophy** for creative learning

FOR THE SCHOOL

Posters, stickers and tulip-related **promotional material**

for use within the school

Information sheet

for parents and carers to involve them in the Challenge

Pack of cards

custom-made by artist Adam Dant

TULIPS TO BE EAST

THE OTTOMAN EMPIRE

A bluffer's guide to the Ottoman and Persian Empires

THE OTTOMAN EMPIRE
The Ottoman Empire was a major world power that lasted for over 600 years. It was founded in 1299 by Osman I in the northwestern part of Anatolia. At its height, it controlled a vast area of land, including parts of Europe, Asia, and Africa. The empire was known for its military strength and its cultural achievements. It was a major power in the world until the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

THE PERSIAN EMPIRE
The Persian Empire was one of the largest empires in world history. It was founded in 551 BC by Cyrus the Great. At its height, it covered a vast area of land, including parts of Europe, Asia, and Africa. The empire was known for its military strength and its cultural achievements. It was a major power in the world until the late 4th century BC.

OVERVIEW

TULIPS TO BE WEST

TULIPS AND THE DUTCH GOLDEN AGE

TULIPS ARRIVE IN EUROPE

Count Gheyn - a controversial polymath

TWO OF EUROPE'S FIRST BOTANISTS:
Rembrandt Dobson
Charles Clusius

THE DUTCH GOLDEN AGE
The Dutch Golden Age was a period of great prosperity and cultural achievement in the Netherlands. It was a time when the country was a major world power and a center of trade and commerce. The Golden Age was also a time of great artistic achievement, with many famous Dutch painters and architects.

THE HISTORY OF TULIPS

THE HISTORY OF TULIPS
Tulips have a long and fascinating history. They were first brought to Europe from the Ottoman Empire in the 16th century. The tulip became a symbol of wealth and status in the Netherlands during the Dutch Golden Age. Today, tulips are one of the most popular flowers in the world.

THE SCIENCE OF TULIPS

FLORIGRAPHY

What is Florigraphy?
Florigraphy is the art of using flowers to convey messages. It was popular in the 19th century, when people would use different flowers to represent different emotions and ideas.

THE SCIENCE OF TULIPS
Tulips are a member of the Liliaceae family. They are known for their long, trumpet-shaped flowers and their vibrant colors. Tulips are native to Central Asia and have been cultivated for centuries.

THE AESTHETICS OF TULIPS

WHAT IS AESTHETIC?

WHAT IS AESTHETIC?
Aesthetics is the study of beauty and art. It is a branch of philosophy that deals with the nature of beauty and the principles of art.

THE AESTHETICS OF TULIPS
Tulips are a beautiful and popular flower. They are often used in art and design. The colors and shapes of tulips have inspired many artists and designers.

ARTISTS & TULIPS

MISTRESSES OF A GORE

THE LADY AND THE TULIP BOOK

ARTISTS & TULIPS
Many famous artists have been inspired by tulips. Tulips have been used in many famous paintings and artworks. Tulips are a popular subject for artists because of their vibrant colors and unique shapes.

ATOMIC GARDENING IS THE BOMB

ATOMIC GARDENING IS THE BOMB
Atomic gardening is a new way of growing plants. It uses nuclear energy to help plants grow faster and stronger. Atomic gardening is a safe and effective way to improve your garden.

CAUTION PESTICIDES

TULIP STONES, MYTHS AND LEGENDS

TULIP STONES, MYTHS AND LEGENDS
Tulips have a long and fascinating history. They are often associated with myths and legends. Tulips are a symbol of love and beauty.

SHIMON-PADISCH

THE SCIENCE & NATURAL HISTORY OF TULIPS

SCIENCE CAME LATER...

SCIENCE CAME LATER...
Science came later than the discovery of tulips. Tulips were known and cultivated long before modern science was developed.

THE SCIENCE & NATURAL HISTORY OF TULIPS
Tulips are a member of the Liliaceae family. They are known for their long, trumpet-shaped flowers and their vibrant colors. Tulips are native to Central Asia and have been cultivated for centuries.

GROWING YOUR OWN

GROWING YOUR OWN
We've read the top tips from the master growers... now it's your turn...

GROWING YOUR OWN
Growing your own tulips is a rewarding and fun activity. There are many different varieties of tulips to choose from. Growing your own tulips can help you appreciate the beauty and science of these flowers.

WATERWHEEL IDEAS

PROPERTIES OF WATER

PROPERTIES OF WATER
Water has many unique properties. It is a liquid at room temperature, but it can be a solid or a gas. Water is essential for life and has many other important properties.

POWER & INVENTION

WILSON & BENTLEY

WATER CINEMA

NATURAL

Waterwheel Ideas
Waterwheel ideas are a great way to learn about water and energy. Waterwheels have been used for centuries to generate power. Waterwheel ideas can be used in many different ways.

Sample pages from edition of *The HoFT Examiner* newspaper produced for the *Turkish Tulips* exhibition in Amsterdam

Students' *Think Space* contributions on the *Waterwheel* website, and pages from the *Waterwheel Thinking Guide*

How will it work in my school?

The Great Turkish Tulip Challenge would work fantastically well if the entire school took part because there will be more excitement and inclusion throughout the school.

The materials are aimed at key stage 2 and 3 but would work well adapted to younger and older students.

Sixth form students would be great facilitators of this experience and this would help their personal and social development.

This is all explained and elucidated in the **Teachers' Thinking Kit Guide** which has sections on each year group and how to encourage the students to get the most from the Challenge.

IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS class teachers will deliver the content through their usual classroom practice – focusing each curriculum subject on the tulip for one or two days – a fantastic opportunity for child-centred, cross-curricular, theme-based teaching practice.

IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS the Challenge will allow each subject teacher to collaborate on a more holistic approach to teaching as for one or two days the tulip travels from the Science department through to the PE department via Humanities, Arts and Languages!

CPD Training Day for Teachers and Management

Earmarked for the 11th to 15th of September, there will be a conference for your team, to launch the Challenge and get excited about its potential for the students.

Thinking Rooms

After students have explored the subjects and themes they are invited to make a creative response through one of the following **Thinking Rooms**. There are suggestions and ideas on every page of their **Thinking Guide** that will inspire the students to come up with original pieces of work.

Sound Studio: music, instrument-making, sound

Laboratory: engineering, design, inventions

Garden: food, horticulture, ecology

Cinema: film, animation, digital

Stage: puppetry, drama

Workshop: fashion, textiles, costumes, craft

Attic: collecting, museums, archives

Hall of Cartography: mapmaking, navigation

Library: storytelling, literature

Playroom: traditional, digital and virtual gaming

Gallery: pictures, sculptures and visual images



How much does it cost?

As a charity we can keep costs low through cross-subsidies so the price is an affordable

£2.50 per child

which covers all resources, teachers' packs and promotional material as well as delivery charges – including all content detailed above.

Who are we?

The **House of Fairy Tales** is a child-centred, artist-led organisation established in 2006, by artists Gavin Turk and Deborah Curtis. We have had charitable status since 2011 to ensure our work is affordable to all while delivering the highest possible quality of production and content.

We aim to bring more engagement, learning and creativity into all communities, cultures and socio-economic backgrounds across all intelligences, interests and talents. We draw on our extensive network of artists, performers, writers, educationalists, designers, musicians, film-makers, dreamers and philosophers to provide narrative-driven experiences for thinking and experimentation.

Operating across a number of formats from interactive events, workshops, exhibitions, publishing, advocacy and education packs, **The House of Fairy Tales** creates partnership projects which are inclusive, inventive and fun whilst inspiring lateral and divergent thinking and creativity in children of all ages.

www.houseoffairytales.org



Partnerships

Over the years we have worked in partnership with over 50 institutions from festivals and public events to museums, galleries and trusts.

These partnerships have included Tate, National Trust, RHS, Royal Shakespeare Company, Thames and Edinburgh Art Festival, Glastonbury and many more.



Sir Peter Blake, *Tulip*
after *Walscapelle*,
Flowers in a
Glass Vase,
1995–96,
acrylic on canvas,
21 × 21 cm

Let us know if you would like your school to be part of this Challenge...

Your early response will ensure you are sent a sample Thinking Kit pack as soon as they are produced. Numbers are limited so express your interest now to be first on the list...

The House of Fairy Tales

0203 603 6166 tulips@houseoffairytales.org

www.houseoffairytales.org/TurkishTulips

See also:

thebowesmuseum.org.uk/Exhibitions/2017/Turkish-Tulips

thebowesmuseum.org.uk/Exhibitions/2017/The-Clockwork-Garden

Thanks to:


THE BOWES
— MUSEUM —