Selmun Fieldwork

Teacher's Notes

Children should wear their PE kit, jacket and comfortable walking shoes.

They should get writing material and a clipbaord (if they have one).

- Selmun is in the village of Mellieħa and from our location we can see Selmun Palace, houses, countryside, road etc.
- We will fill in the weather page as a whole group.
- Typical Maltese habitats at Selmun are garigue, valley (Wied l-Imġeibaħ) and maquis.
- We can take care of these habitats by disposing of litter correctly (bins or dumpsites); keeping to pathways; repairing rubble walls (to prevent soil erosion); no burning of reeds (arson or for fuel-carbon store); overdevelopment; offroading etc.
- Flowers which can be spotted along the route are Lellux, qarsu, papoċċi, faqqus il-ħmir, narċis. Other flowers which might be seen include: reeds (qasab), buttuniera, as well as fields growing local vegetables (ful).
- <u>Rubble wall activity:</u>
  Divide the class in three groups: Group 1 will do rubble wall activity with class teacher; Group 2 will be given bug viewers and will look for differenti bugs; Group 3 will be given magnifying glasses to look closely at wild plants and draw one on page 4.
- Other observations include:
  - Selmun Palace (built in the 18th century during the Knights of Malta – Wignacourt)
  - Dams (to preserve rainwater)
  - Terraced fields and rubble walls (to prevent soil erosion)
  - Farming practices (rubble Walls; terraced fields; crop growth)
  - Freshwater seeping through rocks

- Along the way we will talk about the following:

  Miġbel (quarry) – jinqata' u jinżamm l-ġebel għall-bini (anke għall-Palazz ta' Selmun). Wara kien jimtela' bil-ħamrija u jsiru għelieqi kennija.

  Trejqa – l-eqdem, l-iqsar u l-eqreb mogħdija li tgħaqqad lil Selmun mal-Mellieħa. Qalb il-ħitan tas-sejjieħ tista' ssib ħlejjaq żgħar bħall-bebbux, gremxul, xaħmet l-art, qanfud jew xi ballottra.

  Prinjol jew Żnuber – iħaddar is-sena kollha b'weraq qishom labar. Il-ġewża kemm raġel kif ukoll mara tikber fuq l-istess siġra. Il-Prinjol hija siġra Mediterranja.

  Ilqugħ għall-ilma - mibni fil-1950s. Taħt it-trejqa li tgħaddi għall-wied insibu tliet mini antiki biex jgħaddi l-ilma. Dan l-ilma jintuża mill-bdiewa u jibqa' nieżel sal-Bajja tal-Imġiebaħ.

  Minżel – passaġġ għat-tond biex il-bdiewa iniżżlu l-prodotti tal-agrikoltura u biex jaslu sa ħdejn il-miġbħa (bee hive) taħt l-irdum. Il-ħitan tas-sejjieħ huma mtarrġin biex ma tinġarrx il-ħamrija l-isfel.

  Razzett – antik fejn il-bdiewa kienu jippreparaw (ilaqqgħu, jorganizzaw u jaħslu l-prodotti tal-agrikoltura tagħhom) qabel imorru l-pitkalija. Il-bibien tal-kmamar iħarsu lejn Nofsinhar (south) biex ikunu għall-kenn mill-Majjistral (riħ kiesaħ).

  Pill-box – mibnija minħabba theddida ta' invażjoni waqt it-Tieni Gwerra Dinjija. Għandha ħitan ħoxnin tal-konkos mgħottija bil-ġebel tas-sejjieħ. Kienet tkun imdawra b'barbed wire u kellha mini moħbija fl-art. Kien ikun hemm sitt suldati għassa bil-machine guns u l-bieba tal-ħadid kienet tingħalaq minn ġewwa.