

A grant was awarded by the Society in 2018 to Dr Diane Heath, Canterbury Christ Church University, to assist with the publication costs of outreach material on local medieval history for schoolchildren.

Summary of project:

**Medieval Animals** is a challenging and fascinating single term project for Key Stage 2 classes on human history and animal art, delivered using the medieval bestiary or book of beasts and medieval animal carvings as primary sources. The printed teaching resource will contain twelve lesson plans, fact sheets, a glossary, and recommendations for further resources. The accompanying website will also contain drawings and photographs that can be downloaded and used in the classroom. The lessons explore themes such as history and literacy, art and technology, and science. For example, lessons on the history of the bestiary will focus on how the book travelled from Ancient Egypt to Northern Europe and England, how it changed from being a book just for monks, to a book also used by kings and queens and their courts, and also to being used in schools. The local history sections will focus on St Anselm and the Canterbury Cathedral Romanesque Crypt creatures and themes of conflict and reconciliation. As a further example, literacy lessons will focus on animals' alleged attributes - such as the Lion's courage, the Pelican's love, the Dragon's wickedness and wisdom and how the Little Owl felt about being different and being bullied.