Route description:
The staff leading the session are all first aid trained, and the activity is risk assessed. The school will be met from the coach at Crowden car park, at this point there are toilets available. The coach will wait here for us to return around 2-2.5 hours, this gives the opportunity to leave early if the weather is deemed unsafe, or for any other unforeseen reason.

Group sizes over 30, will be divided into 2, both led by Peak District National Park staff, and supported by at least 2 school staff. It is a circular walk, we will cross over half way.

The walk begins with a gentle walk up the Crowden valley, following firstly a small lane running adjacent to the campsite, then through a gate along a track. Continue straight on and then branch left, which takes you into the grounds of Crowden Outdoor Centre. Here the group will carry out activities and prepare for the walk up the hillside. The path goes right across the front of the centre and exits via a stile on the far (west) side, a second path leads to the right over a small bridge for the 2nd group to follow. From here climb steadily up the hillside to join the route of the Pennine Way. The route is not difficult to follow - especially now that much of the Pennine Way path is paved, parts which aren't can be muddy and it is exposed to the elements.

There are a number of gates, small styles and bridges to cross, these are all in good condition, and will be supervised by staff. It is not a steep gradient, and doesn't have any drop offs or rocky faces, we will only be ascending from 220-290m, total distance of the walk is approximately 1.6km. We will be stopping at appropriate locations where it is safe to gather for our mountain enquiry, however if the weather is poor, we may reduce the stops, keeping warm on the walk and extend the afternoon indoors session. Children will be asked to walk sensibly in single file, with an adult guiding and one at the back.

The group have been made aware to dress appropriately, including sturdy foot wear. A number of spare wellies, hats and gloves will be available to borrow.

1:25,000 scale maps: The Outdoor Leisure Map 1 - Dark Peak covers this walk and offers a larger scale than the Ordnance Survey 1:50,000 Landranger maps. See links below to starting point.

http://www.streetmap.co.uk/grid/407200_399200_120 Streetmap.co.uk - Search results