

The First Time Travel Site, close to Kalmar, Sweden 1986
Stone Age 3000 B.C.
Kalmar Läns Museum and the local school
Teaching local history, close to the school, all senses



History of the Time Travel method

1980 A new national curriculum in Sweden

1986 The first Time Travel event

1989 Time Travel events and training workshops with schools in Kalmar county
80-90 Time Travel events a year

1998 First university course

2000 Nationellt commission from the Swedish government, Dep. of Culture

2004 Bridging Ages is formed as a network in Vimmerby, Sweden, 8 countries

2007 Bridging Ages is formed as an organization, 12 countries

2016

The Time Travel method?

Started teaching local history, learners/ communities research, all senses

Paradigmshift

1. Focus on contemporary issues, using local history/ heritage.
Applied Heritage. Goal: Social cohesion

Learning about history ----- Learning through history

2. Widen the concept.
Emphasizing the Process and the Event

Soft Power!

The Time Travel Method

is an educational method,
using local heritage in a learning process,
to create reflection on contemporary issues,
and provide tools for community building

Goal

The goal is to promote learning, social cohesion and contribute to
community building



The 5 principles of the Time Travel method

- The use of **local sites and stories**
- **Key questions**, connecting contemporary issues with the past
- **Working together**, several partners
- **Different perspectives** of today and the past, mainly bottom-up approach
- **Reflective dialogue** in the process and in the event



The Time Travel Process and the Time Travel Event

The Time Travel process is the common engagement of people, using local heritage as a platform for learning and dialogue in the community. Several components are utilized in the process.

In **the Time Travel event** the participants engage in a story at a local historical site to create reflection on a contemporary issue, and generate plans for the future.

Target groups are local communities and schools.

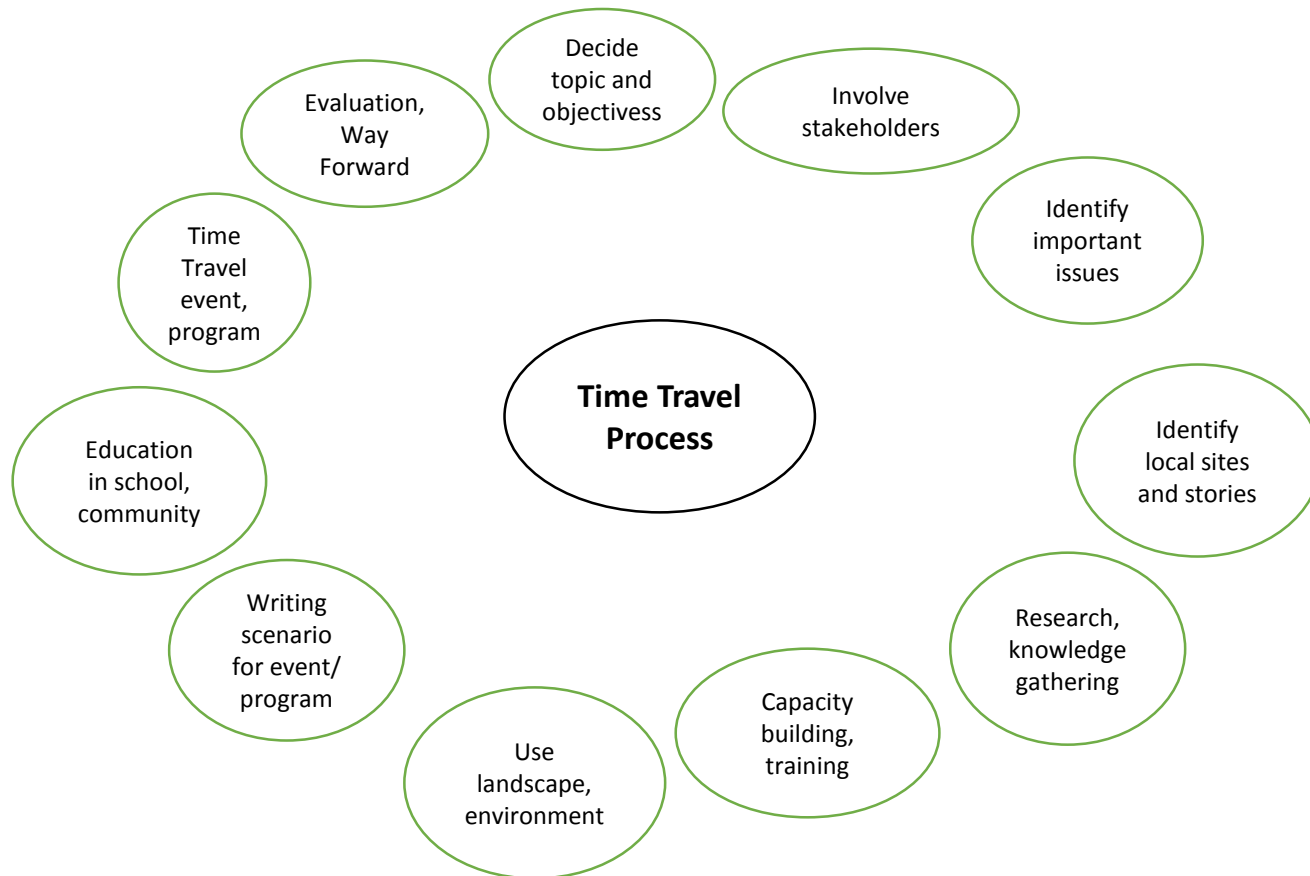
The Time Travel process – meeting place/ community groups

People from the local community, schools, cultural groups, churches, war veterans, elderly center, museum, university, municipality/region

Research/ studies: university- community-learners



Cederberg, South Africa
Time Travel group: local
community, schools,
supported by university,
museum, Cape Nature



Formal learning, education in school:

Local source-material: interviews, archives, landscape, finds

The pupils own questions and research, any subject

Key questions on contemporary issues: health, gender, conflicts, water...

Within the curriculum



The Time Travel event

A fictional story, based on facts

A local site, a special event, a certain year

A scenario, A problem to solve

Key questions, reflect/ discuss

Example:

Kliptown, Soweto 1955, Story: Adopt the the Freedom Charter, K.Q. An inclusive country for all

Petalax, Finland 1904, Migrate to America, K.Q. Migration, we and them

Västraby Stone Age Site, 5000 years ago, Two tribes meet, K.Q. Living with differences

Kalmar 1397, Kalmarunion, K.Q. Union eller nationalism

Kisumu 1973, Opening of the train station, K.Q. Communication

Knjazevac, Serbia 370 AD, Story: Mars festival, K.Q. War or Peace

Cederberg, South Africa

Time Travel event, Divided society

Stone Age settlement



A hunter-gatherer group meets a pastoralist group 1800 years ago

Living with differences



Learning areas, Work and talk



Common discussion and decision, alternative solutions



Evaluation



Reconciliation ceremony, Freedom Park, Pretoria



Public Time Travel event
Walter Sisulu Square, Soweto, South Africa
Freedom Charter 1955



Make a difference, Creating the good society

1. There is a **clear commitment** in the local communities and municipalities for integration and social cohesion. There is also a clear need and desire for increased training for insights, information, coordination and programs.
2. Heritage institutions and museums are in a **paradigm shift**, and many have an interest to focus more on contemporary issues and social change.
3. The study confirms that Bridging Ages and partners are **in the forefront** in the process of social cohesion and applied heritage and has unique experience in this.
4. The study shows that the Time Travel method and Applied Heritage is an **excellent approach** to the work of social cohesion, but still it remains to develop a clear support structure in the form of programs and formalized structure.
5. **Three-year development programs**, Social Cohesion using Applied Heritage and the Time Travel method



**25 countries in Europe, Africa, Asia and America –
People from museums, universities, schools,
municipalities, provinces, historical societies, social
service, war veterans, churches etc**

1500 people on the e-mailing list

Bridging Ages South Africa

Bridging Ages Turkey

Bridging Ages Finland

Bridging Ages Sweden

Bridging Ages Kenya

**Several active countries: Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania,
Italy, Uganda, Ireland, USA, Serbia...**

Social Cohesion Soft Power?!



Use the Local Heritage and the Time Travel method for Social Cohesion and Community Building

Development plans for Bridging Ages countries and regions

Let's Do It! Make a Difference!

