

Key Stage 1:

African tales in the Paul Hamlyn Library

The final page of these notes can be copied and given to students who you think may need additional support during the workshop or to adult helpers.

Before your visit: preparing for your workshop

- Key themes covered by this workshop are books, libraries, museum objects from Africa and authors.
- You may like to discuss the following vocabulary with the students:
 - books: What are the different parts of a book (e.g. cover, spine, title page) and what particular words do we use when talking about a book (e.g. author, illustration, text)?
 - libraries: What is a library?
 - museum objects: What is a museum?
 - authors: look at some books and find out who wrote them. Do you know the names of any other authors? Look at some books by the author Beatrix Potter. What were the names of some of her most famous animal characters?

During your visit

- The session opens with an introduction to the Paul Hamlyn Library – its function, architecture and atmosphere. Then the students will share a big book story about Africa – or paired reading for Year 2- and look at some objects from the Museum collection relating to the big book. Small groups will then take part in a hands-on numeracy activity relating to the book's theme. The session ends with an opportunity to hear about Beatrix Potter who often worked in the British Museum - her life and interests, who some of her most famous characters were based on and how the British Museum holds some of her original watercolour illustrations in its collection. Following the session students will be able to visit the Museum's Africa gallery to look at more objects from across Africa.
- The key gallery associated with this session is Room 25: The Sainsbury African Galleries which display objects from across the continent of Africa.

African Tales in the Paul Hamlyn Library continued...

After your visit: follow-up activities

Back at school the students could

- Find out more about Beatrix Potter and her books.
- Draw a picture of their own animal character based on a pet or an animal they know about. What will they call their character?
- Write and illustrate a story featuring animal characters.
- Find out about objects from other continents and countries by searching the British Museum's website Explore pages at www.britishmuseum.org
- Look at how the classroom library/book corner is organized and consider if there are any changes they would like to make.
- Visit the local public library.

Curriculum links

Key Stage 1 curriculum

African Tales in the Paul Hamlyn Library supports the National Literacy Strategy and the National Numeracy Strategy. It also highlights Global Diversity as part of the Citizenship programme.

In this workshop you will learn about

- what happens in a library
- the different parts of a book
- a story set in Africa

Key words

book

author

cover, spine, page

title, text, picture

story

Africa

Libraries and books

- You will find out what happens in the Paul Hamlyn Library.
- You will find out about the different parts of a book.

African story and objects

- You will listen to a story set in Africa.
- You will handle some objects from Africa.

Maths activity

- You will use some maths equipment to do a maths activity in a small group.

Beatrix Potter

- You will learn about a famous author called Beatrix Potter who wrote stories about animals.