Key Stages 3 & 4
Gallery Art session

Notes for teachers

National curriculum links
- Art & Design

About this session
Gallery Art sessions take place in one or more of the Museum’s galleries. Students explore a theme chosen by the teacher and are led by an artist-educator. The sessions reflect the diversity of world cultures through the British Museum’s collections.

Location galleries
Format gallery workshop, Q&A, practical art-based activities, discussion
Capacity 20 per group (max 80 students per day, split into 4 groups)
Duration 90 minutes
Price Free

In detail
- The session begins with an introduction to the Museum and its collections.
- The artist-educator will lead students through an exploration of the theme in several galleries. The activities vary according to the theme, but the basic model will involve two or three shorter discussion or basic practical activities followed by a longer practical activity.
- It concludes with a plenary which highlights the questions to ask when examining museum objects, the skills of recording information gathered in a museum and a summary of the key themes of the session.

Before your visit
- The purpose of the Museum visit, for example, collecting material for a particular project or examining objects from a particular culture or period, should be made clear before they arrive and students should know the expected outcomes of the visit.

After your visit
- Your session and museum visit should be a platform for a portfolio or project. It should be documented, e.g. using digital cameras, notes and drawings so that further in depth research can be done on themes, artists, techniques and/or cultures showing clear reference to the source material. Being able to provide evidence of development from source material to final piece is a key skill.

Find out more
Explore the galleries containing objects used in your session with Google Street View
- Room 25: Living and Dying
- Room 26: Native North America
- Room 24: Africa
- Room 34: Islam
- Room 35: Asia

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