What’s inside a Gallery backpack?

Gallery backpacks are designed to engage families with the galleries. They include an activity booklet which will guide you around the museum, giving you information about the collection and activities you can complete along the route.

Available every weekend throughout the year from the Families desk in the Great Court. Each activity backpack can take up to 90 minutes to complete, and there is limited availability.

The descriptions give an overview of items and activities in each backpack. The sensory experiences for each backpack are colour coded using the key below.

- Look
- Smell
- Feel
- Listen
Egyptian Mummy Backpack

This bag contains 6 activities. Suitable for ages 5–9.

*Look* at and *feel* the felt body parts. Place them on the body outline.

*Look* at the Canopic jars in the picture and find them in the museum.

*Look* at the white crystals in the container and guess what they are.

*Look at* and *feel* the 5 materials (3 in containers).

Match the materials to their descriptions.

**Amulets** are small objects thought to provide protection.

Take turns to put on the blindfold and *feel* the different amulets.

*Look* in the museum case and find the amulet you felt.
Hieroglyphs are Ancient Egyptian picture writing.

Feel the pictures and use them to write your name in hieroglyphs.

Look at and feel the toy animals.

Match them to mummies on display.

Using the blindfold, feel the 2 materials and guess what they are.
African Adventure Backpack

This bag contains 6 activities.
Suitable for ages 5–9.

Look at and feel the magnetic clothes pieces.
Use them to dress the Chief using the whiteboard.

Look at and feel the 5 toy animals.
Match them to objects in the museum case.

Feel the coloured wools, cottons, material pieces, sequins and beads.
Match them to clothes in the collection.
African Adventure Backpack

Feel the felt hat, textured materials, feathers and shells. Use them to create your own mask.

Use the mirror to see how you look.

Using the blindfold, feel the different pot patterns.

Match them to pots on display.

Use the colourful Wikki-sticks to make your own coilpot.
Life in Ancient Greece Backpack

This bag contains 6 activities.
Suitable for ages 5–9.

**Feel** the tunic and cord belt.

Use them to dress up as an Ancient Greek.

**Look** at the pictures and put them in the correct places to recreate the Nereid Monument, a large tomb built 2400 years ago.

**Smell** each of the 3 containers. Each one smells of a different item kept in Ancient Greek pots. (Olive oil, wine and perfume).

**Listen** to the story of Herakles’ Labours.

**Look** at the 5 pot paintings and place them on the large pot in the order Herakles carried them out in the story.
This bag contains 7 activities.
Suitable for ages 7–11.

**Look** at and **feel** the 3 pieces of different textured building materials (flint, mortar and tile).

Match them to materials on the ruined building.

**Look** at the 4 mosaic fragments and match them to mosaics in the museum.

**Feel** the felt pieces and felt board. Use them to create your own mosaic.

**Look** at and **feel** the 4 objects (miniature frying pan, spoon, key and knife).

Match them to items in the Roman Britain cases.

**Look** at and **feel** the sandal.

Try it on and imagine what it would have been like to wear these shoes for marching.
Jobs in Roman Britain Backpack

Look at the 5 magnetic armour pieces.

Put them on the right place on the soldier.

Feel the wax tablet and wooden stylus.

Use them to try writing in Latin.

Use the MP3 player and headphones to listen to descriptions of Roman gods & goddesses.

Match them to their statues in the museum.
Become an Archaeologist Backpack

This bag contains 6 activities.
Suitable for ages 8–12.

**Look** at the compass and instructions.
Use them to find your way to the starting gallery.

**Look** at and **feel** the 3 pots of food and 2 pieces of fruit.
Match them to the remains in the palace kitchen.

**Look** at the museum case. Can you find the skeleton?
Use the magnetic skeleton pieces to copy the skeleton’s position.

The **Standard of Ur** is a flat, box-like object decorated with pictures.
**Look** at and **feel** the 3 materials.
Find where they have been used on the Standard.
The **Standard of Ur** has 2 sides, one shows a picture of War and the other Peace.

**Look** at the pieces and complete the jigsaw of the Peace Side.

**Look** at and **feel** 2 copies of cylinder seals from the museum’s collection.

**Lamassu** are mythical creatures that are part-human, part-bird and part animal. They were used for protection.

**Feel** the building blocks. Put them together to create 2 Lamassu creatures: the lion and the bull.

**Look** at the 8 panel drawings. Place them in the same order as the panels in the throne room.

Match the descriptions to the correct panels.
Marvellous Mexico Backpack

This bag contains 6 activities.
Suitable for ages 8–12.

**Look** around the gallery and find the 5 Aztec Gods shown in the illustrations.

Match the God to their description and object.

**Look** at and **feel** the 5 plastic animals.

Match them to objects in the gallery.

**Look** at the piece of turquoise in the Perspex box and compare it to the two-headed serpent on display.

**Feel** the felt board and colourful felt pieces. Use them to make your own mosaic.

**Look** at and **feel** the 4 pieces of material (obsidian, jade, copper and laminated gold leaf).

Match them to objects made from them in the case.
Marvellous Mexico Backpack

Look at the different colours of the peacock feather.

Smell the cacao beans – do they smell like chocolate?

Look at and feel the wooden Aztec calendar.

Learn about the Counting of the Days.

Lord Bird Jaguar was a ruler of an ancient Maya city and a famous warrior.

Look at and feel the 6 magnetic clothing pieces.

Use them to dress Lord Bird Jaguar.

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