



Secondary school visits to the Great North Museum: Enrichment Days

Particularly suitable for KS3, adaptable for KS4 and KS5

What does an enrichment day involve?

As a small team, our typical day involves a **mix of facilitated and teacher-led activities**. This gives your pupils time to **learn from expert museum staff** as well as **teacher-led time to explore the museum**.

Workshops

- Led by museum staff, with teacher supervision
- Delve deeper into a topic linked to the museum
- Get up close to museum objects
- Available for History and Science

Planetarium shows (optional)

- A unique experience
- Only costed activity – £37 or £67 per showing, depending on length
- Teacher supervision required

Teacher-led activities

- Led by school staff
- An opportunity to explore the galleries
- Resources provided to support you: gallery explorer kits and worksheets you can print

Lunch

- Access to a suitable space for packed lunches
- Bag and coat storage also provided
- Teacher supervision required

What benefits do visits offer?

Increased cultural capital - Facilitating cross-curricular links - Enrichment and enjoyment - Handling museum objects - Learning beyond the curriculum

Practicalities



Various term-time dates available



Arrive 10am, leave from 2pm



Maximum 180 students per day



Coach drop-off point available



Free of charge, except Planetarium showings



Students will need: lunch, a drink, copies of the worksheets, a pen, clipboards are optional

What are teacher-led activities?

Teacher-led activities are when you are leading your students' learning, typically in the galleries themselves. As a small team, we can't offer a full day's worth of workshops. We recommend that each group focuses on a particular gallery or floor per session, to make supervision easier.

We have two different resources to support your teacher-led activities:



Gallery Explorer Kits

- These contain structured activities to extend your students' learning around a certain topic. They are typically used in the galleries themselves but if available, we can book you a room to use them in. The following kits are relevant to KS3:

[Evolution gallery explorer kit](#): build a timeline of evolution that is millions of years long and investigate the adaptations of different living things – both local and extinct.

- Exploring pre-history
- The Romans
- Ancient Greece
- Ancient Egypt



Printable worksheets

- These resources have been designed by museum staff to support students in engaging with the exhibits and galleries. They cover various subject areas and are available in MS word format so you can customise or compile into a booklet to cover the whole day. We ask you to print worksheets or booklets at school.
- [Browse and download our worksheets here](#)

Alternatively, you can create your own activities and resources. We would recommend a pre-visit without your students, to design these.

What does a typical day look like?

Theme	If you bring 3 or 4 classes per day, each class gets:	If you bring 5 classes per day, each class gets:	If you bring 6 classes per day, each class gets:
Cross-curricular	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 45 minute sessions 1 History workshop 1 Science workshop 2 teacher-led sessions OPTIONAL – swap a teacher-led session for a Planetarium showing (cost) <p style="text-align: center;">Most popular</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 40 minute sessions 1 History workshop 1 Science workshop 3 teacher-led sessions OPTIONAL – swap a teacher-led session for a Planetarium showing (cost) <p style="text-align: center;">Most popular</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 30 minute sessions 1 History workshop 1 Science workshop 3 teacher-led sessions 1 Planetarium showing (cost) <p>If possible, we encourage schools to bring fewer classes per day to enhance the experience.</p>
History	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 45 minute sessions 1 History workshop 3 teacher-led sessions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 40 minute sessions 1 History workshop 4 teacher-led sessions 	N/A
Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 45 minute sessions 1 Science workshop 1 Planetarium showing (cost) 2 teacher-led sessions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 40 minute sessions 1 Science workshop 1 Planetarium showing (cost) 3 teacher-led sessions 	N/A
Bespoke	<p>We are open to more bespoke requests, please get in touch and let us know what your aims are. We advise at least a half-term's notice and we can't always guarantee availability of staff outside the learning team. Some examples of bespoke workshops that have been added:</p> <p>Science shows with the Street Scientists ambassadors – Meet a museum curator – 'Life at uni' with Newcastle University ambassadors – Art with museum objects</p>		



Example timetable: Cross-curricular (4 classes)

Guiding question: What can Science and History teach us about how humans came to be?

Cost: Free

Time	Class 1	Class 2	Class 3	Class 4
10:00 – 10:15	Arrival & orientation, store lunches			
10:15 – 11:00	Science workshop: 99% ape	Teacher-led Science: Evolution gallery explorer kit	History workshop: Roman Impact on Britain	Teacher-led History activity: Prehistory gallery explorer kit
11:05 – 11:50	Teacher-led Science: Evolution gallery explorer kit	Science workshop: 99% ape	Teacher-led History activity: Prehistory gallery explorer kit	History workshop: Roman Impact on Britain
11:50 – 12:30	Lunch			
12:30 – 1:15	History workshop: Roman Impact on Britain	Teacher-led History activity: Prehistory gallery explorer kit	Science workshop: 99% ape	Teacher-led Science: Evolution gallery explorer kit
1:20 – 2:00	Teacher-led History: Prehistory gallery explorer kit	History workshop: Roman Impact on Britain	Teacher-led Science: Evolution gallery explorer kit	Science workshop: 99% ape
2:00 – 2:15	Pack up and leave			



Example timetable: Cross-curricular (6 classes)

Guiding question: What topics can I learn about from visiting The Great North Museum: Hancock?

Cost: £402.00 for 6 planetarium showings

Time	Class 1	Class 2	Class 3	Class 4	Class 5	Class 6
10:00 – 10:15	Arrival & orientation, store lunches					
10:15 – 10:45	Planetarium	Teacher-led activity 3	History workshop	Teacher-led activity 2	Teacher-led activity 1	Science workshop
10:45 – 11:15	Science workshop	Planetarium	Teacher-led activity 3	History workshop	Teacher-led activity 2	Teacher-led activity 1
11:15 – 11:45	Teacher-led activity 1	Science workshop	Planetarium	Teacher-led activity 3	History workshop	Teacher-led activity 2
11:45 – 12:15	Teacher-led activity 2	Teacher-led activity 1	Science workshop	Planetarium	Teacher-led activity 3	History workshop
12:15 – 12:55	Lunch					
12:55 – 1:25	History workshop	Teacher-led activity 2	Teacher-led activity 1	Science workshop	Planetarium	Teacher-led activity 3
1:25 – 1:55	Teacher-led activity 3	History workshop	Teacher-led activity 2	Teacher-led activity 1	Science workshop	Planetarium
1:55 – 2:10	Pack up and leave					

Teacher-led activities: Art with museum objects, Evolution gallery explorer kit, Museum scavenger hunt



What History workshops are on offer?

History workshops are a great opportunity for children to have a hands-on experience with historical artefacts and investigate key historical topics through an enquiry-based approach.

Who are the mummified people at the museum? (KS3-5)

- Work as an Egyptologist to analyse x-rays and CT scans of mummified people at the museum.

What Science workshops are on offer?

Science workshops allow students to handle fossils, taxidermy and other objects that bring their learning to life.

99% Ape

- Handle replica skulls of human ancestors and investigate our evolution.

This world rocks

- Learn more about the rocks under our feet and in the products we use everyday.

Taonga on the Tyne

- Consider the ethics of our taxidermy collections from New Zealand and contrast Māori and western perspectives on the environment.

Introduction to scientific archaeology

- Learn about the scientific archaeology techniques behind our Roman altars in colour display.



Other workshops

Curator Q&A

- Meet a current staff member and learn more about roles and skills needed for museum careers. Ask questions about their job(s) and how they got there.

Careers workshop

- Meet a current staff member and learn more about roles and skills needed for museum careers. Learn how to handle historical objects and taxidermy.

(art)efacts

- Get up close with historical artefacts and taxidermy. Learn how to handle them safely, then sketch or photograph. This can be themed to suit your curriculum.

What can we see at the Planetarium?

This is the only activity that has a cost associated. A single showing is £67. Discounts are available: 40% off for groups under 18 pupils, 20% off if you book more than one showing for the same group of pupils. We recommend:

From Earth to the Universe

- A guided tour of the Universe, with an awe-struck voice-over.
- [Watch a trailer here.](#)

The Amazing telescope

- Learn about the night sky and the history of astronomy.
- [Watch a trailer here.](#)

Cell! Cell! Cell!

- This is the story of the trillions of cells that form our bodies, from our beginnings as a single cell to the complexity of a whole body.
- [Watch a trailer here.](#)

Audio Universe: A tour of the solar system

- Designed to be inclusive for individuals with all levels of sight.
- [Watch a trailer here.](#)

What is involved in organising an enrichment day?



Contact us via: learning@greatnorthmuseum.org.uk