



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

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

Planetarium shows (optional)

- A unique experience
- Only costed activity – £75 per showing, every second showing half-price
- Teacher supervision required

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.

- Chronology of ancient history
- 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)	<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)	<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	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: Science shows with the Street Scientists ambassadors 'Life at uni' with Newcastle University ambassadors		



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: £337.50 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: Drawing in the galleries, 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?

Consider whether mummified people should be displayed in museums.

Work as an Egyptologist to analyse x-rays and CT scans of mummified people at the museum. Use this evidence to support your stance in a debate.

Roman Impact on Britain

- Analyse and investigate objects and reconstructed buildings to understand life in Roman Britain its impacts on us today.

Meet the curator

- Subject to staff availability, please contact us.
- Ask and Answer
- Object handling sessions.

For further information, please visit:

www.greatnorthmuseum.org.uk/learning/history-workshops



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.

The colour of nature

- Consider the variety and importance of colours in nature.

Investigate Urban Nature

- Join a project in collaboration with the Natural History Museum, London. Collect and compare data to decide whether we should stop mowing our lawns.

This world rocks

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

Meet the curator

- Subject to staff availability, please contact us.
- Ask and Answer

For further information, please visit:

www.greatnorthmuseum.org.uk/learning/science-workshops



Are there any other workshops available?

Subject to availability.

Art with museum objects

- Supervised handling and drawing from life, with a range of museum objects.
- Some choice of objects, depending on availability, which could include:
 - Animal taxidermy – e.g. owl, fox, badger, hedgehog, tortoise, crocodile, arctic hare
 - Fossils
 - Rocks and minerals
 - Bones
 - Objects from Ancient Greece, Ancient Egypt, prehistory or Roman times
 - 3D prints of objects from the collection

Careers Q&A

- Meet staff and hear about their role and the skills required. Learn about their career path to their current role.
- Then take part in a Q&A to learn even more.
- Subject to staff availability, please contact us.
- Recommended for days with 30 minute or shorter sessions.



What can we see at the Planetarium?

This is the only activity that has a cost associated. A single showing is £75 but every second showing is half-price.

From Earth to the Universe

Recommended for Year 5 to adults.

30 minutes

This stunning voyage through space and time conveys, through sparkling sights and sounds, the Universe as revealed to us by science.

This is great if you want your pupils to get a tour of the solar system and exposure to an awe-struck voiceover with new vocabulary.

[Watch a trailer here.](#)

The amazing telescope: 2 pieces of glass

- Recommended for Year 5 – Year 9.

- 25 minutes

- Join two teenagers at a local star party and learn how the telescope has helped us understand our place in space.

- The most accessible of our recommended showings for secondary school groups.

- [Watch a trailer here.](#)

1 show =	£75.00
2 shows =	£112.50
3 shows =	£187.50
4 shows =	£225.00
5 shows =	£300.00
6 shows =	£337.50

Audio Universe: A tour of the solar system

- Recommended for Year 3 upwards. Designed to be inclusive for individuals with all levels of sight.

- 35 minutes

- Experience the Solar System like never before by traveling on a spacecraft that can turn the objects in space into sound.

- [Watch a trailer here.](#)

We are aliens

Recommended for Early Years to Year 6.

25 minutes

We Are Aliens! takes you on an epic ride in the hunt for the evidence of alien life.

This show is unique, engaging and playful. You may wish to consider this showing if you are a SEND school or group, or are bringing a Year 7 group early in the year.

[Watch a trailer here.](#)



What is involved in organising an enrichment day?



Contact us via: learning@greatnorthmuseum.org.uk