**Gallery Activities**

Some of these activities for the museum galleries work well for small groups, others can involve a full class. We also have downloadable support material for visits focused on particular collections. You can find the full range available at: <https://greatnorthmuseum.org.uk/learning-resources>

**I Spy**

A game of I Spy can give children a focus for exploring and looking harder around a gallery. You can go with the traditional ‘I spy with my little eye, something beginning with….’ approach, or try

* Colours
* Textures
* Shapes
* Objects from a particular place or habitat (‘something that lives in a desert’)

**Treasure Hunt**

Set a task – who can find the oldest, youngest, largest, smallest object etc. Pupils could simply report back or use a digital camera or drawings to record their findings.

**Make a Museum**

Find information while you are at the museum about how to display, catalogue and label objects, then make your own museum when you are back at school.

**Colours, shapes and counting**

Consolidate work from school on colours or shapes by getting pupils to find a rainbow of objects or to spot objects in particular 2D or 3D shapes. Offer a prize to whoever can record the largest number of objects of different shapes and name the shapes they have found. Get children to find numbers of things or to count how many x in a case.

**Local objects**

Many objects on display at the Great North Museum: Hancock are from North East England but our collection stretches world wide. See if you can find something from close to where you live or where your school is located. Can you find objects from different countries where pupils in your class may have family or friends?

**Selfies**

How about a class picture with the *T. rex*?

**A few of our favourite things**

Set everyone the task of finding their favourite object through the day (or indeed something they didn’t like at all!). This works particularly well if you have digital cameras or ipads with you but drawings or just descriptions can work well too. Back at school you can compare and contrast and use the material as an opening for art, literacy, ICT or PSHE work as well as the topic for which you may have been visiting the museum.

**Can you guess?**

Divide groups into teams. Someone from a team has a minute to describe an object in a display in front of them without naming it. The rest of the team have to guess what it is before the time runs out.

**Scavenger hunt**

Issue everyone with a list of objects (or a set of pictures for younger children) to look for through the course of the visit. This obviously works best if you have time for a planning visit, but can also be very generic (eg something old, something new, something borrowed, something blue….).

**Design your own Top Trumps**

Get everyone to research objects or animals for a Top Trumps game. Make sure you agree the categories in advance and then you can make the game when you get back to school.

**Outdoors**

You are very welcome to eat your packed lunch out on the lawn, but also to have a run around and play out there. Do feel free to bring, for example, a skipping rope. Because of the proximity of the road, we would not recommend ball games.