



museums matter: **accessing Ireland's heritage** Museum Engagement Sheet

Museums preserve our past through collecting objects. These collections are a record of our heritage that we can use to make sense of the world today and yesterday.

Look at the objects on display in the museum, what do these tell you about the artist/maker/user...? Use the box to sketch in your favourite displays.



What was the object used for?

What does it tell you about the artist/ maker? What about the person who used it?

Why do you think it has been included in the exhibition?

Look at what period the object dates from, what does it tell you about the culture of that time?

Do you think this object has influenced the world you live in today?

Museums are made up of collections of all sorts of objects. Some collections are huge. For example the Natural History Museum in Dublin has more than 2 million animals while the Ulster Folk and Transport Museum in County Down has more than half a million photographs.

Imagine you are a curator of your own exhibition. Use the space below to describe what you would display and why.

What sort of objects would you put on display?

Who would this exhibition be aimed at?

What do you think someone in the future would say about your collection?

How would you take care of your collection?



Group Activity

Get into your groups and pick your favourite object from the collection. Take on different roles and think of what different people would say about it -

An Archaeologist:

A Visitor:

A Curator:

An Artist:

The Irish Museums Association is dedicated to supporting and promoting the interests of museums and the museums community throughout Ireland.

Irish Museums Association; T: +353 1 6633579 E: office@irishmuseums.org W: www.irishmuseums.org