IMA EDUCATION FORUM
CREATING CONNECTIONS

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KEY QUESTIONS FOR THE EDUCATION TEAM DURING LOCKDOWN 1:

What do schools need?

How can we keep hands-on learning at the heart of our programme?

How can we replicate the liveliness of in-real-life engagement?
“Remote learning seems to be the only way, as schools will be finding it very difficult to organise their own familiar environment to make sure it is safe.”

TEACHER SURVEY MAY 2020:

92% of respondents stated they would be interested in engaging in a virtual learning programme

“Keep talking and we'll come up with a plan.”

“Video conferencing is very doable! We've seen that first hand over lockdown.”
Ancient Egypt – Prepare for the Afterlife

Key Stage 2

The Ancient Egyptians lived life so much so that they wanted to prepare to live forever when they died. Through a guided investigation of a range of objects, pupils can explore the lives of everyday people and learn about the methods of preservation used in tombs. Pupils will discover more about the mumification process and why it was so successful.

They will gain an understanding of the spiritual beliefs of the Ancient Egyptians and the incredible skills of the people involved in this process. Pupils will have the opportunity to record their findings and observational drawings in their very own investigation diary book.

Looking Good in Ancient Egypt

Key Stage 2

It is human nature to want to look our best. Discover with your class how Ancient Egyptian men, women and children were about ‘looking good’. Thousands of years ago by exploring the evidence they have left behind on wall paintings and personal items found in tombs. In the workshop, pupils will take part in a range of activities such as make-up and make your own Egyptian ‘beauty’.

Pupils will find out how products were made, stored and used through handling artefacts, taking samples, participating in experiments and making observational drawings.

“The senses were very much included in this workshop - from the feel of papyrus, crushing malacite to the smell of unguent.”

Teacher Feedback
Making an Impression

Key Stage 2

While Impressionism first emerged in the late 1860s, it was considered to be a radical art movement. In this lesson, we take a look at the work of some of the artists involved in the first Impressionist exhibition in 1874 in Paris, including Claude Monet and Paul Cézanne.

Why was it so shockingly modern at the time? We will examine the painting in detail alongside other works by well-known painters in the first Impressionist exhibition, such as Monet, Manet and Pissarro. The class will explore how the Impressionists’ use of bright colour, brushstrokes and division of form were used to create paintings that broke away from established art practices of the time.


www.mmel.com/learn

Rembrandt – Up Close

Key Stage 2

We will guide the class through an up-close examination of six etchings by the artist Rembrandt van Rijn, recently donated to the Ulster Museum. Surprisingly, Rembrandt’s etchings, rather than his paintings, were responsible for the international reputation he enjoyed during his lifetime.

His contemporaries were in awe of his skill and now he is widely regarded as one of the greatest storytellers in the history of art. We will look at how he told big stories in these small and exquisite prints. The class will have an chance to explore for themselves the many expressive possibilities of printmaking using copperplates to make some small-scale scratchy drawings.

© National Museum of Ireland, Ulster Museum.

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Whatever the Weather

Key Stage 1

Find out how some of the greatest Irish artists in the Ulster Museum’s fine art collection depicted the landscapes in different seasons. We will also take a look at a selection of paintings and help guide the class through an examination of how colour, form and line can capture different weather conditions and create mood and atmosphere.

We also get to know a little bit about the artists’ lives, where they lived and what kinds of scenes they liked to paint.

There’s a chance to discuss how we feel when we spend some time looking at the paintings. What is it about them that makes us feel it is stormy, sunny or cold, and can we see some of the same methods to make our own weather pictures?

During the workshop, the class can have a go at making their own weather pictures using some simple creative techniques and we will take some time to share and discuss their artworks.

“...The discussion on tone, colour and echoes was fantastic and definitely gave pupils the tools and vocabulary to engage with their own paintings.”

Teacher Feedback

www.mmel.com/learn
Ulster Folk Museum

Meet the Makers

The Linen Weaver

We meet a linen weaver and investigate the sequence of processes involved in the production of linen: flax in a field to the finest linen tablecloth. Learn about the life of a weaver in the early-1900s and listen to the creaking clock of a loom in action in Bellaghy Cottage at the Ulster Folk Museum. See and touch some textile tools from the museum’s collection and test your knowledge and understanding of this very impressive British tradition through a series of fun and creative activities in the classroom.

The Blacksmith

We meet a blacksmith at the Ulster Folk Museum and enjoy a fiery demonstration of his art at the forge. We discover why blacksmiths held such an important role in rural communities in the past and examine the special tools and materials they used. This class will help you to see how the heat of the forge was used to bend and shape metal into a useful variety of items for everyday use in the home and on farms. And there will be opportunities to engage in creative design activities and carry out some research into the fascinating world of the traditional blacksmith’s forge.

The Printer

We meet Andy the printer in Buidhe Printshop in Ballycastle, where we learn about the art of printing to operate a traditional printing press and learn about its significance as a tool to spread news and information. The class will find out about the magnificent press that was used to print the news of the landing of the Telnos and gain an understanding of the many tools it took to make something as intangible as a sheet of newspaper. Each session comes with a set of tools and resources to help the class try some simple printmaking techniques to make their very own black-and-white prints.
30+ LOAN BOXES CONTAINING OBJECTS FROM OUR COLLECTIONS AND HIGH QUALITY REPLICA
Ancient Egypt — Prepare for the Afterlife
Investigation case book

Case notes

Listen carefully to the conversation during the investigation. Write down the names of the materials used to make the objects you are looking at (don't worry about spelling!).

Case samples

You will be taking samples of the contents of some of the jars, crushed stones and fabric. Attach them on to this page and make a note of what they are.

TEACHER PACKS PRODUCED FOR EACH THEME WITH CLASSROOM RESOURCES INCLUDED
SHORT FILMS COMMISSIONED AT ULSTER FOLK MUSEUM TO INTEGRATE INTO LIVE SESSIONS.
MULTIPLE VIRTUAL HUBS CREATED ON EACH SITE WITH THEMED BACKDROPS AND VIDEO CONFERENCING EQUIPMENT.
EDUCATION OFFICERS AND TEACHERS WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP TO DELIVER THE LEARNING SESSIONS
“The follow up session was great idea. It meant we all had a deadline to work towards and the children had a good motivation of seeing the museum team again to display their work.”

Pilot programme teacher feedback
Hardy Memorial PS&NU @HardyMemorialPS · 3d
P4H enjoyed hands on experience with genuine World War 2 artefacts as we took part in a brand new remote learning programme from National Museums NI. @FolkTransport @UlsterMuseum

Pond Park P5 @pondparkp5 · 07/05/2021
A fab couple of sessions on Ancient Egypt, led by the wonderful staff at the Ulster Museum! Extremely engaging and informative! @UlsterMuseum
ADAPTING CONTENT AND FORMAT FOR SPECIAL SCHOOLS JANUARY – MARCH 2021
Calling all primary school teachers!

As primary schools welcome back all year groups today, we're delighted to announce that we are now taking bookings for our exciting new blended learning programme #Museumonthemove for the summer term!

Museum on the Move offers the chance to connect your school to our museums virtually and explore real museum objects in the classroom. In a series of live and interactive workshops delivered via Microsoft Teams, children will have the opportunity to see, hear and touch physical objects from our collections. See more...
SCHEDULING CHALLENGES!

- Clustering schools according to location
- Managing logistics of loan box delivery
- Ensuring adequate quarantine times between schools
SCALE AND REACH

• 334 sessions delivered to 102 schools = 10,020 engagements.

• One in five schools had not participated in our programmes for more than five years.

• Almost one-third of schools were located in rural communities.
KEY QUESTIONS FOR THE NEXT PHASE:

Can Museum on the Move co-exist successfully with onsite learning programmes when schools return?

What does this new model of engagement mean for our future relationship with schools?
Access for All
Not Just During Covid
A higher proportion of disabled people than non-disabled people were worried about the effect of the coronavirus pandemic on their well-being.

Just over 7 in 10 disabled adults reported they were "very worried" or "somewhat worried" about the effect that the coronavirus was having on their life.

Disabled adults more frequently reported their well-being had been affected through feeling lonely.

1 in 10 disabled people indicated feeling very unsafe when outside their home because of the coronavirus outbreak.

The Office for National Statistics, reported in May 2020
Who is involved?
First Ever Museum Zoom Tour for People with Sight Loss in NI

Sight loss charity the Royal National Institute of Blind People (RNIB) has been working with National Museums NI to ensure its four sites are more accessible for blind and partially sighted people.

After months of collaboration and focus groups with blind and partially sighted people, the first ever remote engagement workshop from the Ulster Museum in Belfast will take place on Monday, September 28. The subject of the workshop will be one of the museum’s most famous residents - Takabuti the Egyptian Mummy.

RNIB Northern Ireland has also thanked National Museums NI for distributing RNIB best practice guidance to its Visitor Services staff at the Ulster Museum, the Ulster Folk Museum, Ulster Transport Museum and Ulster American Folk Park.
BSL AND ISL MARINE BIOLOGU TALKS AND NI SCIENCE FESTIVAL EVENTS
WORKSHOPS DELIVERED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF ATYPICAL AND LOCAL WAVES MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING PODCAST
PRE VISIT SOCIAL STORIES AND NEW SIGNAGE
“The information was excellent and the way the presenters described the paintings helped me to visualise them in my mind.”

“Very well delivered sessions by both staff members. Opportunity to ask questions. As a visually impaired person, the use of the tactile goody bag was excellent. An education!”

“When we get back to normality in the museum can we come in and make crafts in the museum? Also can I have the notes emailed out?”

“The thoughtful and personalised sensory items I received in the post. I have paid for tours in other places before and never have I been made to feel so included than I was this time.”

Staff was friendly and welcoming who accommodated for my needs.”

The two elements, Zoom talks followed by visit, complemented each other well, and the whole thing was thought out in great detail, down to the paper clip on one envelope to distinguish it from the other. Well done. In person in gallery- A brilliant format! So well designed.
AGE NI
GUIDE DOGS NI
NOW GROUP
RNIB
AUTISM NI
HEALTHLY LIVING CENTRE
ALLIANCE
National Museums Northern Ireland to prioritise access as sites reopen

Dedicated booking slots are available for groups including older people and those with sight or hearing loss.
OUR FIVE YEAR STRATEGY

What we have built so far gives us an amazing opportunity to continue building a more ambitious, innovative and relevant museum service. In the next five years we will be bolder in accelerating the transformation of our museums as a public service.

COMMITMENTS

We will commit to making progress in four main areas:

1. WE WILL CHAMPION INCLUSION, DIVERSITY AND ACCESSIBILITY
2. WE WILL CREATE MORE WAYS TO GET INVOLVED
3. WE WILL EXTEND THE IMPACT OF OUR COLLECTIONS
4. WE WILL BUILD THE MUSEUM INFRASTRUCTURE OF THE FUTURE
Thank you

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