

- Many museums are free to enter, but some make a charge, or charge to visit special exhibitions.
- You can find out about charges before you go by phoning or looking on the museum website.
- You can find out about other museums or galleries in your local area at:
  - your local library
  - the family information service
  - the yellow pages (look under museums and galleries)
  - [www.24hourmuseum.org.uk](http://www.24hourmuseum.org.uk)

- ### Museums and galleries offer families:
- a warm welcome
  - opportunities to explore and learn together
  - opportunities to find out about different cultures, people, places and much more.
- There will be:
- things to discover
  - things to talk about with your child
  - and often activities for families too.

- ### Preparing for your visit
- Talk with your family about:
- what you are interested in
  - which museum you would all like to visit
  - what you would like to see.
- You can find out in advance:
- when the museum is open
  - if there is a café or somewhere to sit and eat a picnic
  - if there is a charge to get in
  - specific activities for families
  - how to get there. The journey can be enjoyable too.

- ### During the visit
- Many museums have a map to help you find your way around the collection.
- Encourage your children to take the lead.
- Ask them questions such as:
- Where do you think we should start?
  - What should we look at next?
  - Have you seen something like this before?
- Or talk about what you remember from your childhood:
- When I was a child we didn't have ....

- There are all kinds of museums and galleries – some large, some small, some that collect particular types of objects and some that have been put together by a particular person.
- There are museums about:
- agriculture
  - arts and crafts
  - childhood
  - clocks
  - flight and flying
  - local history
  - natural history
  - science.
- Can you think of any other types of museums?

- Museums and galleries are collections of things, including:
- boats
  - local history artefacts
  - paintings and sculptures
  - space rockets
  - textiles
  - toys
  - vehicles.



## A mini-guide to Museums and Galleries for families

Name:

Our visit to:

Date:

### Some of the words you find in a museum or gallery include:

- artefacts
- collections
- discovery centre
- exhibition
- historical
- interactive
- interpretation
- manuscript
- trails.

What other words can you find?

## After the visit

Talk about what you saw together.

You could ask questions such as:

- What did you like best at the museum or gallery?
- What did you find surprising or exciting?
- What did you like best about the visit?

You can find out more about something that interested you by:

- getting a book out of the library,
- looking on the Internet,
- planning another visit.

## Make a mini shoe-box museum

- Find an empty box.
- Decide what you want to put in your museum.
- Think of a name for your collection.
- Decorate both the outside and inside of the box.
- Collect some items to go in it. You could display them in smaller boxes.
- Make labels to describe each item in your collection.

## Draw or write about something you saw on your visit

## What amazed me most about the visit was...

## Some useful websites

[www.24hourmuseum.org.uk](http://www.24hourmuseum.org.uk)

Information on hundreds of museum, gallery, library and archive exhibitions and events across the UK.

[www.show.me.uk](http://www.show.me.uk)

Games and fun for kids from UK museums, galleries, heritage and science centres.

[www.icons.org.uk](http://www.icons.org.uk)

[www.artguide.org/museums.php](http://www.artguide.org/museums.php)

[www.exhibitionsnet.com](http://www.exhibitionsnet.com)

[www.niace.org.uk](http://www.niace.org.uk)

[www.campaign-for-learning.org.uk](http://www.campaign-for-learning.org.uk)

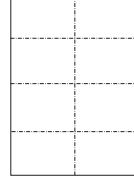
## Acknowledgements

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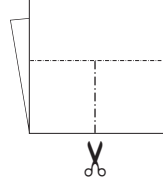
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## How to make your mini-guide

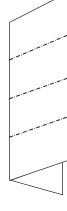
1. Print out the pdf double-sided, or make a double-sided A4 photocopy
2. Fold the A4 paper into eight rectangles



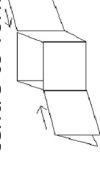
3. Unfold your paper and fold it in half widthways. Cut along the dotted line to the centre fold.



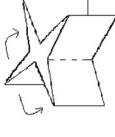
4. Unfold your paper then fold it lengthways



5. Push left and right ends towards the centre to form a cube



6. Continue to push the ends towards the centre until you have a star shape



7. Fold the sections round to make pages 1–8 of your origami book

