

Museum Detective Session Plan

St Barbe Museum

A 1½ hour session for one class of KS1 or KS2
Suitable for delivery at school and at Family Learning Events.

We request an adult: child ratio of 1:8. For safety reasons adult helpers will need to be located at activities for the duration of the session. Session materials, recording and information will be tailored to the age and ability of pupils.

Objectives

- To use a range of resources including museum artefacts and museum displays (if in school) to learn about the conditions needed to keep things safe in museums.
- To learn through carefully structured scientific explorations what agents of destruction there are at work in museums and our homes.
- To suggest ways we can keep artefacts safe in homes and museums.

Session Outline

Introduction

Welcome to St. Barbe Museum, introduction to the Museum. Health and safety information will be given. Deposit coats and bags. Instructions will be given on how the session will run.

Activities

Pupils are asked: 'What is a museum and what do they have in them?' 'What things are the Agents of Destruction at work in our museums?' and further related questions.

The class group is divided into 6 groups with up to 8 in each group.

Pupils work with their group to investigate temperature, humidity (if in museum), water, acid/alkali, contaminants, pests light plus a Box of Horrors to investigate force, neglect and other destructive influences. All activities are highly interactive and fun ways of learning.

Plenary

An opportunity to revisit key ideas and learning points and to ask further questions.