History Sessions at
Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery

Museum Galleries
- Brand new interactive and stimulating galleries charting the history of Birmingham throughout the ages
- The Ancient World (Rome, Greece, Egypt)
- The Staffordshire Hoard

Roman Remains
Spend a day in the life of a Roman soldier; marching, training, eating and relaxing with our legionary. Handle original artefacts, take part in a battle and celebrate victory by role-playing stories from Roman mythology.

The Glory that was Greece
Pupils handle genuine museum artefacts whilst hunting for clues about the lives of the ancient Greeks and engage in role-play to discover the stories behind the decoration of Greek pots before exploring our ceramics collection.

KS1 & 2
History 1 ½ hours

Ancient Egypt
Explore the secrets of making an Egyptian mummy from the grisly beginnings, through preparation and funeral rites to burial. Having fun along the way, handle genuine Ancient Egyptian artefacts, make music and become gods.

The Glittering Gold: Exploring Saxon Treasure
Pupils become archaeologists on their own dig and use metal detectors to uncover objects before learning conservation techniques to reveal clues about the real meaning of the burial of the mystifying Staffordshire Hoard.

KS1 & 2
History 1 ½ hours
Discovery Days

A special programme of Discovery Days are also available combining Art, History and Drama to create a day of exploration.

Your Discovery Day will be made up of two sessions, a morning and afternoon of approximately 1 hour 30 minutes each. If two classes come together they will swap over at lunchtime.

One session will be mostly artefact-based and concentrate on historical enquiry. The other will look at works of art and techniques associated with a particular culture as well as including an art-and-craft-based activity.

We provide discovery days for Egypt, Greece, Rome and A Strangers Guide to Birmingham.

The Glory that was Greece Discovery Day

Pupils will investigate genuine museum artefacts to explore the lives of the ancient Greeks, engage in role-play to discover the stories behind the decoration of Greek pots, and participate in mask-making, an important element of any Greek play.

Ancient Egypt Discovery Day

Pupils will learn about mummification, handle unique museum artefacts, explore our Egypt gallery, design a sarcophagus and participate in a role-play activity to investigate the importance of the Egyptian Gods.

Roman Remains Discovery Day

Spend the day in the life of a Roman soldier, handle original artefacts, take part in a battle and celebrate victory before creating Roman pots in our exciting clay workshop.
The Birmingham History Galleries opened in Oct 2012 and display Birmingham’s heritage from its medieval beginnings through to the present day. Why not book one of the following interactive and stimulating sessions to find out more?

**A Stranger’s Guide to Birmingham**
Uncover the importance of trade and industry in Birmingham by exploring the galleries with a member of the Learning Team, before assuming the role of an entrepreneur and designing and creating your own Birmingham product.

*KS2 and KS3  
History 1 ½ hours*

**The Birmingham Blitz**
Step inside a war time house and experience the life changing effect that the war had on families using a range of artefacts including some taken from Birmingham homes, and personal accounts from the Home Front.

*KS2  
History 1 ½ hours*

**Time Travelling Curators**
Learn about the work of a museum curator. Pupils will investigate how museums began by handling real objects and visiting the galleries before classifying their objects, creating their own text labels and designing their own museum display.

*KS2, 3 & 4  
History 1 ½ hours*

**Victorian Lives – Work, Rest and Play**
Using our rich collection of Victorian artefacts and paintings explore the lives of children during this period, looking at school days, domestic life and their leisure time.

*KS2 and KS3  
History 1 ½ hours*

**Life in Medieval Birmingham**
Explore our 3D medieval map of Birmingham and compare it to Birmingham today.

Handle artefacts and costumes from our collection to explore different areas of Medieval life, such as living conditions, armour, weapons and trading.

*KS2,3 & 4  
History 1 ½ hours*
Why not take a look at our especially developed sessions for Secondary schools?

Surviving the Holocaust
Work with our unique sound archive of the primary and secondary accounts of Birmingham’s Jewish refugees to identify what evidence these accounts can provide about the Jewish experience of the Holocaust in Germany and Europe.

KS3 & 4
History 1 ½ hours

Letters to Loved Ones
Learn about life on the Front Line and connect with the lives of local soldiers writing to their families at home. Use genuine letters and artefacts from our collections to create your own short film.

KS3 & 4
History 1 ½ hours

Life at Home
Explore our Gallery – Birmingham at War – handle genuine artefacts and put characters under the spotlight to discover what life was like for those living at home during the Second World War.

KS3 & 4
History 1 ½ hours

Medicine Through Time
Research the development of Medicine and Health, considering the impact of poor health and hygiene using our collections and artefacts before relating these findings to Birmingham and creating a visual timeline in our History galleries.

KS3 & 4
History 1 ½ hours
Planning your Visit

Each booked class will receive a morning or afternoon teaching session led by a member of the Learning Team.

Information about services for schools can be found at schoolsliaison.org.uk

Here you will find an extensive range of resources to support your visit. Risk assessment forms are available online or on request.

To make a booking

To book a taught session, please contact the Education Bookings Team on 0121 202 2244 or email: educationbookings@birminghammuseums.org.uk

Please note that our taught sessions incur charges, visit schoolsliaison.org.uk for more information.

“It’s been fantastic!”

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“From preliminary enquiry to the visit - excellent organisation and follow up.”

The session was thoroughly enjoyable and stimulating for us all.”

“Outstanding, very enjoyable. Thank you!”