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EDUCATIONAL VISITS

Brighton Toy and Model Museum houses a truly unique collection of toys and models from all over the world, some dating as far back as circa 1750. The collection includes trains, aeroplanes, boats, dolls, games and novelty items, glove and marionette puppets, toy theatres, and much more.

The museum offers a very successful educational programme for schools, covering a wide range of national curriculum modules and which is designed to meet the key learning outcomes. Our extensive range of artefacts enables educational groups to explore topics within History, Science and Design Technology.

We cater for pupils from nursery age to adult learners, although our main offer is to primary school aged children.

Sessions Offered to Primary Schools

	EYFS	Key Stage 1	Key Stage 2
Bears, Dolls and Mechanics – Comparing old and new toys	EYFS	KS1	KS2
Moving Toys – from Jumping Jack to clockwork trains	-	KS1	KS2
What was it like to be a child in the Victorian era?	-	KS1	KS2
What was it like to be a child in WW2?	-	-	KS2
On the Move – Travel and Transport	-	KS1	KS2

The sessions are led by Education Officers and provide the opportunity to look at and handle artefacts as well as to discuss their significance. For KS2 sessions an emphasis is also placed on historical investigation and the use of evidence.

THE EDUCATION SESSION - KS1 & KS2 VISITS

The general format of an educational session is as follows, although this can be adapted to meet the needs of the specific group.

Arriving at the Museum

On arrival you will be met by the Education Officer who will guide your party to the top gallery area, where we are able to store your coats and lunchboxes.

Welcome & Safety Briefing

The visit will begin with a welcome and safety briefing by the Education Officer. This will include an introduction to museum staff, location of the toilets, health and safety information, alarm procedures and an overview of the visit.

Look and Find Activity

This activity is designed to familiarise the children with the museum layout and its displays. The children will be asked to divide into small groups and find specific exhibits in the museum (these vary according to the focus of the session) and to answer questions about them. These will then be discussed as a whole group when they return to the upper gallery.

Talk & Handling Session / Investigation Session

The talk and handling session takes place in the upper gallery and includes a talk by the Education Officer on the specific theme of the session, including showing artefacts appropriate to the theme and allowing children to handle them. Discussion with the children is a key part of this activity. For the KS2 sessions on Victorians and WW2 children will be asked to carry out their own investigation, using a range of artefacts as well as an examination of the exhibits within the museum, in order to discover what they can learn about the lives of children in these historical periods.

Lunch

We allow our educational groups to have a snack and/or lunch time within the upper gallery. However, we ask that you request non-sticky food items and that you clear up the area after eating, so as to leave it as it was found. Black bags for any rubbish will be provided and a dustpan and brush and kitchen towel will be on hand.

Chairs are provided for the adults whilst children sit on the floor – you may find it useful to bring rugs for them to sit on. Please bear in mind that during the visit the museum is still open to the public therefore space will be needed for the public to walk around.

THE REMAINDER OF THE VISIT

Following lunch we can offer a range of activities, depending on the time available to the group.

Focused Drawing Activity

The children are set a drawing task designed to encourage careful observation of some of the museum exhibits. The content of the task will vary according to the focus of the visit. Schools are asked to bring along sketchpads and pencils for this activity.

Traditional Puppet Show

A puppet show can be provided for an extra charge. A traditional fairy tale show using beautifully handmade puppets (mainly suitable for KS1 children). Please request this in advance in order to allow for preparation and to ensure the availability of the puppeteer. It may be necessary to split the group so that the puppet show is performed twice and the group not watching the show takes part in the drawing activity.

We can also allow time for the children to simply enjoy the museum in small groups. The museum also has some old penny slot machines that can be operated with 10p coins.

The Museum Shop

Our shop offers a wide selection of inexpensive toys and souvenirs should you wish to shop. Due to the size of the shop we ask that the children visit in small groups (accompanied by an adult) – this is best done during an afternoon activity such as free time or sketching. We recommend spending money of £4 to £5. Any purchases the children make will be put into a paper bag with the child's name on it. These will then be put together into larger bags ready for distribution when on the coach or back at school. This prevents toys being lost in the museum and means that children are able to remain focused on the learning experience of the day.

Alternatively, we can arrange to make up goody bags for a cost of £4 per child.

Leaving the Museum

Please bear in mind that we have limited toilet facilities and that you need to start preparing the children for departure well in advance of the intended departure time.

OTHER VISITS WE CAN ACCOMMODATE

If you would like to arrange an educational session for KS3 or KS4 students, college students or adult learners, please contact the Education Officer to discuss this.

We also offer guided tours of our collection for large groups. Alternatively groups are welcome to look around our museum unaccompanied for a flat rate price with admission for their group leader(s) being free.

We can offer a tactile session for blind or partially sighted groups. Please contact us to discuss this option.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Timing of Visits

Educational visits are normally available on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. The museum opens at 10am. Depending on transport arrangements the visits usually start around 10am and can run until 2pm, depending on the requirements of the particular school group. You should allow at least two hours for the visit.

Group Size

Due to the space available in the museum our maximum group sizes are 30 - 40 KS1 children or 36 KS2 children. It may be possible to accommodate larger groups on a Monday when the museum is closed to the public – please contact us to discuss this.

If you would like to arrange a visit for older children or adults please contact us to discuss recommended group size.

Wheelchair Access

Though situated within a Victorian building, adaptations have been made to enable full wheelchair access to the museum. One of our toilets has likewise been adapted. Please advise us on booking if you have anyone in your party who requires wheelchair access.

Planning Ahead

Our museum offers a unique experience and is a popular choice for educational visits. Booking well ahead is advisable, although we will do our best to accommodate late bookings.

We offer teaching staff a complementary preliminary visit to get a feel for the museum and liaise with museum staff before a school visit. If you would like meet the Education Officer during this preliminary visit then please inform the museum in advance.

BOOKING AND PAYMENT

Session Prices

Educational Session	Minimum Charge of £144 for up to 36 children and adults, £4 each per additional child/adult.
Puppet Show	Minimum Charge of £72 for up to 36 children and adults, £2 each per additional child/adult.
Other Groups	Please contact the museum for an individual costing.

An invoice will be issued on the day of the visit and will be adjusted if necessary if numbers differ from those originally booked. Payment is required on the day of the visit or within 2 weeks. Payment is by cash or cheque only. If paying by cheque please make it payable to Brighton Toy and Model Museum.

Booking an Educational Visit

All school visits must be booked in advance. Please contact the museum and have to hand the following information needed for booking -

- The date(s) you wish to book (please have a range of dates available in case your chosen date is fully booked)
- School Address and email address
- Contact telephone number
- Number of children and teachers that will be attending
- Estimated time of arrival and departure
- The general topics you wish to be covered in the session

Once the booking has been made a confirmation form will be sent to you to complete and return to the Education Officer.

CONTACT DETAILS

Should you require any further information, please contact our Education Officer with the details below or speak to any of the museum staff.

Phone - 01273 749494

Email - education@brightontoymuseum.co.uk

Website - www.brightontoymuseum.co.uk

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