

DIY MUSEUM



When you visit a museum, you typically see cabinets or shelves of artefacts or memorabilia with labels that tell you something about the item on display. Even online museums will provide information about the objects in their online exhibition.

In this museum, you are going to be the curator and instead of labels that provide information and

answer questions, you are going to design labels that **ask** questions.

Your job is to find five images of objects that relate to your topic (World War One, World War Two, a particular battle or event, a particular place or person, a memorial near your school, your town at a particular time in history...). If you have the real object and you can put it on display in your classroom, that's even better! Maybe a family member has an object that you could photograph?

Imagine the walls of your classroom are your display cabinets. How will you position your objects (images) around the room? Will you group similar objects together by age? By theme? By colour? By shape? Will you centre the objects on the wall? Take up all the space? Or will you place them at eye level around the walls with labels above and below the images? Will you create a composition or pattern with your objects? Which object will be your 'star' object – this is the one that needs to feature most prominently in each section of the display. Perhaps you could change the size of this object to make it larger so that it really stands out?

For each object (image) in your display, you need to prepare a label. On each label, you should tell your audience what the object is and where you found it (for example, the name of the person who allowed you to photograph the item, or the name and url of the web site where you found it).

On your label, instead of providing information, you are going to ask your audience questions.

What sort of questions could you ask?

- What do you think this object was made out of? Why do you think this?
- What do you think this object was used for? Why do you think this?
- What are the object's sensory properties? (How might it feel, sound, taste, smell?)
- What might this object's history be? Who owned it or used it? When? Where?

You should provide your audience with an answer sheet so that they can record their answers as they walk around your exhibition.

