

# Explore Blackburn Museum: Information for teachers

## About this learning resource

This is a set of activity cards that aims to help your class explore Blackburn Museum. The activities support history, art and design, geography and literacy at Key Stage 2, but may be adapted for younger or older pupils.

There are six activity cards, each designed to be used in groups of around five pupils. The cards can be completed in any order. Each activity card in the set has a different focus:

Card title	Focus
<i>Where are we?</i>	Using historic maps to explore the local area and understand how it has changed.
<i>What is this place made of?</i>	Exploring the entrance hall to examine how the architects selected and use materials to make a big impact.
<i>What is this place for?</i>	Investigating the carved panels on the building's exterior and what they communicate about the purpose of the building.
<i>How has this building changed?</i>	Using historic photos and the building's architecture to discover how it has changed.
<i>What can buildings tell us?</i>	Drawing and discovering the Gothic Revival style of architecture.
<i>Who was here?</i>	Using drama games to explore ideas about the building and its visitors.

## What to bring with you

- The activity cards, printed double sided – at least 1 set for the class (1 set of cards per group is best).
- Pencils or pens – at least 1 per child
- Exercise books/sketchbooks/5 sheets of plain paper + clipboard – 1 per child
- Camera(s) if possible
- Lots of adult helpers!



# Explore Blackburn Museum: Information for teachers

## How to use the activity cards

- The activities are designed to be self-led and can be done without any facilitation by the museum's staff. If you need help, do ask a member of staff who will assist as much as they can.
- Teachers may wish use all of the cards, or select a few. You are welcome to adapt activities to suit your class.
- All of the indoor activities take place in ground floor rooms. We suggest that you use the Reception Gallery, off the Foyer, as your base to gather the class before and after the activities.
- We suggest that, after a safety briefing, the class is broken into six groups. Each group is given a set of cards, each set starting with a different card. Groups should be allocated an amount of time to spend on each activity card, after which they should move on to the next activity card. The class should regroup at a time and location decided by the teacher, to share their discoveries.
- Ideally, each group should have an adult helper who will supervise the group and read out the instructions on the cards. However if teachers feel their pupils can behave safely and responsibly, groups without an adult leader could use some of the activity cards independently.

## Safety

The class teacher is responsible for pupils' behaviour and safety at all times, and should conduct a risk assessment before bringing the class to visit. Please note:

- Some activities take place outdoors, and pupils will be required to cross roads. These pupils must be accompanied by an adult.
- Some activities are indoors. Pupils must walk, not run, and take care not to bump into furniture.
- Groups should stay together.
- Pupils must be mindful of other groups and members of the public.

## Blackburn Museum contact details

Museum Street  
Blackburn  
BB1 7AJ  
01254 667130  
<http://blackburnmuseum.org.uk>

There are nine more historic buildings in Pennine Lancashire to explore using activity cards like these. For more information visit: <http://www.wonderful-things.org.uk>