Before you visit the Museum

Explain to your class they are to choose specimens for an exhibition of their own.

The exhibition will have a theme and they must choose appropriate exhibits, explaining the reasons for their choices. The number of specimens can vary, depending on the age and ability of the pupils.

Different themes could be given to different groups of children, depending on the topics being studied, galleries used, their age and ability. Examples of exhibitions may include:

**Predators Rule!** – showing some of the world’s most interesting predators and their adaptations.

**Life as Prey** – showing a selection of prey animals and their adaptations.

**Dinosaurs Rule!** – teaching children all about different types of dinosaurs.

**Colourful Creatures** – showing the amazing range of colours and patterns in the natural world.

**Natural Gems** – showing some of the world’s most beautiful gemstones.

The possibilities are endless. Children could also come up with their own idea for an exhibition.

An exhibition planner is included for you to photocopy.

**Learning outcomes**

- to look closely at exhibits and choose appropriate specimens for an exhibition
- be able to explain reasons for the choice and make selections for the exhibition according to a given criteria

**Curriculum links**

**Literacy:** explanations, descriptive writing, persuasive writing, newspaper reports, advertisements

**Science:** (depending on themes for exhibition) adaptation, variety of life, interdependence etc.

Teacher’s notes

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**At the Museum**

The children must carefully choose specimens for their exhibition, then sketch and describe them. They may be able to take a digital photo of each choice. Ensure they record all the information they will need to use back in school.

**After your visit**

- Share the children’s different exhibitions back at school.
- Ask children to make a mini-presentation, explaining their choices.
- Create a display or set up a classroom exhibition.
- Use ICT to create an advertisement for the exhibition.
- Use literacy lessons to write a newspaper article about the exhibition. Children could also create a persuasive piece of writing to encourage schools to visit it.
Explore and Discover...

My exhibition is called:

My exhibition is about:

Write the names of your exhibits in the box below the display cases:

Exhibit 1:  
Exhibit 2:  
Exhibit 3:  

I chose these for my exhibition because:

__________________________
__________________________
__________________________
__________________________
__________________________