

For further information about these and other activities see www.mhs.ox.ac.uk/education

Or contact the Secondary Schools Education Officer:
Chris Parkin
christopher.parkin@mhs.ox.ac.uk Tel: 01865 277297

Cross-museum and cross-curricula visits

All the Oxford University museums are within easy walking distance of each other so that large groups can be accommodated with a carousel programme across several museums. Please see www.museums.ox.ac.uk for further information or contact the Education Officer for advice.

Information for visiting groups

Public Opening Times

The Museum is normally open to the public from 12 – 5pm Tuesday to Friday, 10am-5pm on Saturday, and 2-5pm on Sunday. Pre-booked parties may visit at other times on weekdays by arrangement.

Toilets and Cloakroom

The Museum has toilets that are for use by the general public and school groups. There are a very limited number of toilets and it is advisable to use facilities elsewhere before arriving at the Museum.

Disabled Access

If you require wheelchair access, please contact us beforehand.

Supervision

We normally require a ratio of approximately one adult to ten children. Please contact us to discuss if this is a problem.

Lunch

We have no lunch facilities at the Museum. In fine weather, lunch can be eaten in the University Parks which is a short walk away. No eating or drinking is allowed in the Museum. Please see website for advice about alternative venues.

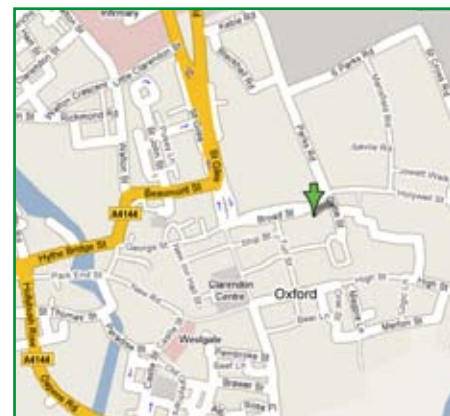
Directions

If the Museum is shut to the public (morning sessions and Mondays), come down the stone steps and ring the bell beside the wooden basement door. If the Museum is open to the public, enter through the main door.

Parking and Coaches

The Museum is unable to provide parking facilities for visiting school groups. Coaches are usually able to drop-off and pick-up in Broad Street.

Park and ride is normally advisable for minibuses.



Museum of the History of Science

Broad Street,
Oxford OX1 3AZ.

Tel: 01865 277280

Website: www.mhs.ox.ac.uk

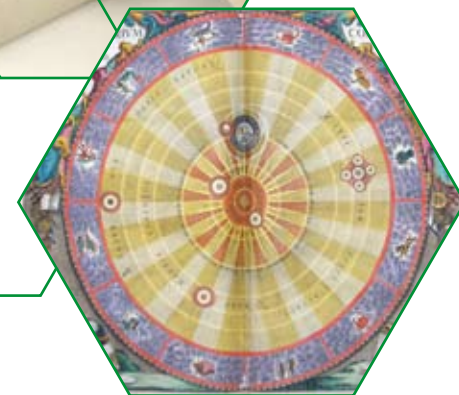


MUSEUM *of the*
HISTORY *of*
SCIENCE



SCIENCE

Workshops for Secondary Schools



RENAISSANCE SOUTH EAST
museums for changing lives

Activities for Schools

The Museum of the History of Science has a unique collection of early scientific instruments and models housed in an historic building.

- **Activities and workshops available at all Key Stages**
- **Historical context ideal for exploring Ideas and Evidence and How science works**
- **All sessions are adaptable to individual requirements. Activities include discovery, handling original objects, modelling, problem-solving and an inspiring museum environment!**

In most cases the maximum group size is about 30. For larger groups please contact the Education Officer to discuss.

Key Stage 3

Astronomy:

Observing the Universe

Explores methods for observing the Universe, including the development of the telescope. Introduces the use of geometry in astronomical measurement.

- **How early astronomers observed the Universe.**
- **Galileo, Newton and the development of telescopes.**
- **Handling session with original instruments.**



Astronomy:

The Mechanical Universe

Explores the use of armillary spheres, orreries and planetaria to model the Universe. Explores ideas and evidence from Ptolemy to Galileo.

- **Globes and orreries.**
- **Looking at models in science.**
- **Conflicting arguments: Ptolemy, Copernicus and Galileo.**

Microscopy

Introduces the history of microscopy including Robert Hooke and Anton van Leeuwenhoek from the seventeenth century. Activities include handling original instruments, books and archive material.

- **Development of microscopy.**
- **Hooke, Leeuwenhoek and microscopy in the 17th century.**
- **Handling session with original instruments.**



Time tellers: Sundials

A fantastic collection of sundials is used to compare different designs and how they work. Includes model-making and problem-solving.

- **Observing the Sun and the first time tellers.**
- **Modelling sundials.**
- **Handling session with original instruments.**



Key Stage 4 and AS/A2

What is this thing called an astrolabe?

Introducing a collection of the world's oldest astronomical calculators. This session includes model-making and problem-solving.

- **Introduction to early astronomy.**
- **Demonstration of an armillary sphere.**
- **Make an astrolabe and find out how it works.**



Radio Marconi **NEW**

This is a practical-led session that introduces students to the historical development of electrical communication from telegraphy to radio transmission.

- **Try out Morse code and the art of telegraphy.**
- **Radio waves and the first radio transmission.**
- **Build a crystal set radio.**



Early Electricity: Creating Sparks

Explores early ideas about electricity and lightning illustrated by objects from the collection. Includes popular demonstrations of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries.

- **Early ideas about electricity.**
- **Popular electrical demonstrations.**
- **Benjamin Franklin and the lightning conductor.**



Discovery of Gases: Pneumatic Chemistry

Explore early chemistry and the discovery of gases including Lavoisier, Priestley and Black.

- Examines the overthrow of phlogiston theory.
- **Early Chemistry and the discovery of gases.**
- **Lavoisier, Priestley and overturning phlogiston theory.**
- **Ideas about discovery and how science works.**



Penicillin the Wonder Drug

Explore the story of penicillin including war-time development at Oxford and X-ray analysis of its structure by Dorothy Hodgkin.

- **The story of penicillin.**
- **How social and historical factors affect scientific discovery.**
- **Antibiotics and x-ray crystallography.**



Sixth Form Study Days

Study days for Sixth Form students are organized around particular themes on an occasional basis. For the date of the next Study Day and examples of previous events please see www.mhs.ox.ac.uk.

