

Citizens of the Ancient World



Key Stage 2 Gallery Session
Support Notes for Teachers

Citizens of the Ancient World Gallery Session

These gallery sessions offer an opportunity for pupils to think about citizenship in the ancient world. A key theme will be cultural identity. Identity is strongly defined by objects, environment, beliefs or ways of life which have a special meaning for people in terms of how they see themselves. These factors are known as cultural identifiers. The sessions will look at objects which help us to determine what it meant to be a citizen in the past. The sessions will also explore the issue of who was a citizen and the different people that made up a society.

Preparing for your gallery session

Before the day of your visit you may like to explore the idea of identity with your pupils by looking at the cultural identifiers we today use as members of different groups.

For example, the pupils could devise a set of school identifiers which indicate what makes the school special for the pupils and what identifies the school to other people in the locality. This might include the colour of the school uniform, the school name and emblem, where the school is located or the nature of the school building(s).

COMPASS

Before or after your visit you may like to look at the British Museum's internet database of over 5,000 British Museum objects known as COMPASS which can be accessed at

www.thebritishmuseum.ac.uk/compass

There is also a children's COMPASS at www.thebritishmuseum.ac.uk/childrenscompass

Curriculum Links

Citizenship non-statutory guidelines at Key Stage 2

These sessions support work on thinking about the lives of people living in other places and times and people with different values and customs.

National Curriculum for History at Key Stage 2

These sessions support work on placing events, people and changes into correct periods of time and identifying the characteristic features of periods and societies. During the session pupils will have an opportunity to communicate their knowledge and understanding of history. The sessions support the study units A European History Study (*Ancient Greece*), Romans, Anglo-Saxons and Vikings in Britain (*Roman Britain*) and A World History Study (*Mesopotamia*).

Contact Details

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Please quote the reference *Citizens of the Ancient World: Key Stage 2 Gallery Session* in all enquiries and indicate at the time of booking whether you wish to book the *Ancient Greece*, *Roman Britain* or *Mesopotamia* Citizens of the Ancient World Gallery Session.