



Manchester Art Gallery

Use Museums and Galleries to Improve Pupils' Literacy

Museums and galleries are inspiring places that support pupils' literacy and help raise attainment in writing.

Recent research has proven that a partnership between Manchester Children's Services, Manchester schools and five museums and galleries achieved on average an increase in pupil attainment in writing that was 35% greater than nationally set expectations for progress. The initiative "MAGPIE" started in 2005 and is ongoing.



MANCHESTER
CITY COUNCIL

Children's Services

Manchester Children's Services and Museums and Galleries

“ Manchester Children's Services works in partnership with museums and galleries in Manchester as we believe that they can help support pupils achieve their full potential. The success of MAGPIE has shown that museums and galleries can have a considerable impact on teachers' confidence and practice in the teaching of writing. ”

Gill Hunter, Primary Strategy Manager
Manchester Children's Services

Manchester Children's Services has worked with the Manchester Art Gallery, Manchester Museum, Whitworth Art Gallery, Museum of Science and Industry and the People's History Museum to develop a wide ranging programme of activities for schools which can help raise pupils' attainment.

Ongoing training and development opportunities for teachers have supported their teaching and learning of literacy through museums and galleries (in order to raise attainment in English KS2).

The Museums and Galleries Initiative in Manchester is coordinated by the Primary Consultant: Museums and Galleries who is part of the advisory team at Manchester Children's Services. It is funded by five museums and galleries in Manchester through Renaissance in the Regions.

People's History Museum



No Bed of Roses – People's History Museum

This People's History Museum schools' workshop is based on oral histories gathered from three Manchester women who migrated from the Caribbean in the 1950s. Pupils help Gabrielle with her life changing decision and follow her journey to Britain. Suitable for Y3 and above.

Tales of the unexpected (KS2) – Manchester Art Gallery

This Manchester Art Gallery session is led by writers who take pupils on a fascinating journey into their imagination. Pupils investigate what makes a good story through the gallery's collections exploring characters, plots and vocabulary.



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“ The physical environment of the museum or gallery, the other people involved, the objects and experiences and the scheme of work that the teacher had designed provided a unifying framework for learning which, the teachers believe, helped their pupils. ”

University of Warwick MAGPIE Evaluation Report

Develop Your Teaching with Museums and Galleries

Teachers who have used museum and gallery resources to support literacy have:

- ★ enhanced literacy teaching by linking it to first hand experience in museums and galleries;
- ★ re-established purpose as the key motivational force in writing through the use of museums and gallery collections;

- ★ developed a more cross-curricular approach to the teaching of writing;
- ★ increased the use of visual images, speaking and listening and performance in their teaching;

“ (The Museum and Gallery Initiative) has helped my own literacy teaching. I trained in 2000 so the whole of my training was around the literacy strategy when teaching became very formulaic. This project has brought much more speaking and listening and creativity.. ”

Participating teacher.

For current teacher training and development opportunities at museums see www.mewan.net or contact your local museum or gallery.



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“ Reminded me of the value of visual aids to inspire creative ideas and imagination. ”

Participating teacher

CPD Training Events for Teachers at The Whitworth Art Gallery

Animated Tales CPD is a fun, lively training session designed for KS1 and KS2 teachers and uses a range of artwork and artefacts to develop story-telling skills.

Characters, settings and events will be sequenced and developed through visual, kinaesthetic and auditory activities. Teachers come away with lots of practical techniques that can be adapted for the classroom and self-guided museum and gallery visits.

The Whitworth Art Gallery provides a range of CPD opportunities. For further information contact Ami Hallgarth (Early Years and Primary Co-ordinator) on 0161 275 8451.

// *Pupils are now better listeners and talkers.*

(Teacher)

All of the children's confidence has grown considerably.

(Teacher)

It helped me with new words and made me want to write. **//**

(Pupil)

University of Warwick
MAGPIE Evaluation Report

Improve Your Pupils' Literacy with Museums and Galleries

Research has shown that pupils involved in museum and gallery literacy activities have:

- ★ Enhanced their writing through first hand experience and language development;
- ★ Improved their speaking and listening skills, leading to improved writing;
- ★ Written at greater length and with greater enjoyment.

Engineer Eric's Difficult Day – Museum of Science and Industry

This interactive session in the Museum of Science and Industry's Power Hall provides an inspiring experience for pupils which emphasises the vocabulary relevant to the steam locomotive.



Museum of Science & Industry

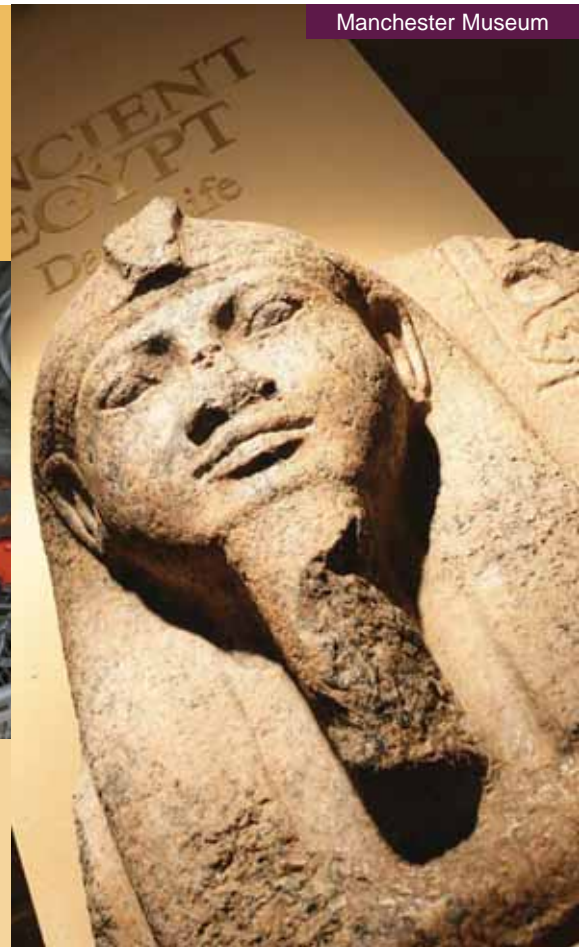
Talking Heads – The Whitworth Art Gallery

This is an engaging, experiential session that explores portraits and textiles to develop a range of characters. Using drama techniques, such as role-play and hot-seating, pupils explore emotions, motivations and relationships between characters, which can be further developed back at school.



Whitworth Art Gallery

Manchester Museum



Ancient Egyptian Explorer Session – The Manchester Museum

The new Ancient Egyptian Explorer session uses storytelling to set the scene for exploration of the museum galleries. Led by museum staff, classes visit a number of galleries to research aspects of Ancient Egyptian life. Movement, drawing and literacy based work provide material to develop and extend classroom work.

Museum and Gallery Literacy Resources and Information for Teachers and Advisors

A toolkit of resources from the MAGPIE initiative can be downloaded from www.mewan.net

The following five museums in Manchester have worked together to develop their literacy resources for schools.

Manchester Art Gallery

Manchester Art Gallery offers an extensive range of creative workshops for schools which support literacy. These involve practical activities that are led by artists and experienced educators. Workshops are cross-curricular in approach, and wherever possible, cross-cultural. They are based on the permanent collections and often on special exhibitions.

To make a booking or find out more:

Tel: 0161 235 8842

Email: mageducation@manchester.gov.uk
www.manchestergalleries.org

Manchester Museum

The Manchester Museum's new programme offers hands-on sessions using objects from the Museum's collections. All sessions promote and develop speaking and listening and will provide experiences which can lead to a range of writing opportunities.

To make a booking or find out more:

Tel: 0161 275 2630.

Email: nora.callaghan@manchester.ac.uk
www.museum.manchester.ac.uk

People's History Museum

The People's History Museum offer half day Living History workshops which actively involve pupils and link to the National Curriculum. The workshops also include role play, object handling and investigation of museum displays.

To make a booking or find out more:

Tel: 0161 839 6061

Email: education@phm.org.uk
www.phm.org.uk

Whitworth Art Gallery

The Whitworth Art Gallery has a range of artist-led sessions that support literacy and is happy to tailor sessions to meet teachers' needs more closely. The gallery can also provide art materials, trails and a handling collection to support self-guided visits.

To make a booking or find out more:

Tel: 0161 275 8451

Email: education.whitworth@manchester.ac.uk
www.whitworth.man.ac.uk

Museum of Science and Industry

The Museum of Science and Industry's five buildings are packed with colourful exhibits, sights, sounds, smells and experiences to stimulate and enthuse children. National Curriculum-linked science, history and cross-curricular taught sessions are on offer for primary schools. In addition, science shows and presentations are available to help pupils explore museum exhibits and themes. All these activities provide excellent ways into literacy work providing wider contexts for teachers to explore and use.

To make a booking or find out more:

Tel: 0161 833 0027

Email: education@mosi.org.uk
www.mosi.org.uk

To find information about other local museum or gallery resources, go to www.24hourmuseum.org.uk/mapsea.html

Museums and galleries are a rich resource that can support the teaching and learning of literacy.

They offer:

- ★ Authentic artefacts and works of art to captivate pupils
- ★ Expertise of museum and gallery staff
- ★ A creative way to teach and learn which enhances all areas of the National Curriculum
- ★ A rich resource of culture and heritage
- ★ Interactive learning strategies that engage all learners

For further information about the Manchester Children's Services Initiative with museums and galleries "MAGPIE" please contact:

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Whitworth Art Gallery



Museum of Science & Industry

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NORTH WEST
museums for
changing lives



MUSEUMS LIBRARIES ARCHIVES
NORTH WEST

We would like to thank the primary school teachers in Manchester who were involved in the project and this publication.

For further copies of this leaflet please visit the Renaissance pages at www.mlanorthwest.org.uk