ASHMOLEAN

Artful Encounters

Explore some of our most treasured objects and pieces of art across our galleries then get competitive with our game.

Select one of your cards. Find and estimate the height of your object and write it on the card. Pick a competing category. Compare the scores with your opponent's card. The highest score wins. The winner keeps the losing card.

Play with your family or friends, or look out for members of Ashmolean staff who have this badge on, then challenge them to a game and win their cards! Ready for an Artful Encounter!



Barbara Hepworth's Talisman II

Gallery: 62

Age: 64 years old

Height:

Travelled: 212 miles from St Ives



Paper model of the Sheldonian Theatre

Gallery: 5

Age: 205 years old

Height:

Travelled: **0 miles** (made in Oxford!)



Manet's Painting of Fanny Claus

Gallery: 65

Age: 155 years old

Height:

Travelled: 255 miles from

Paris, France



Figure of Nandi, the bull of Shiva

Gallery: 32

Age: 425 years old

Height:

Travelled: 4588 miles from

Deccan, India



Messiah Violin

Gallery: 39

Age: 305 years old

Height:

Travelled: **930 miles** from Cremona, Italy



Cast of the Terme Boxer

Gallery: 14

Age: 120 years old

Height:

Travelled: 940 miles from Rome

This sculpture is made from white marble and is inspired by amulets or stones worn smooth by touch. The artist also made sculptures inspired by nature.

Can you spot any more of her artwork in this gallery?

Made in 1820 in Oxford, this paper model is of the Sheldonian Theatre. Take a look inside.

Describe to your family or friend what you can see.

This portrait is of a lady called Fanny Claus.

She was a concert violinist and a friend of Manet's wife.

What do you think she is looking at?







Statues like this one are often placed outside temples. They often face toward a Shiva temple. This one is made of basalt, which is a type of volcanic rock.

Look at it carefully. What catches your eye?

Created by Antonio Stradivari, a famous instrument maker, this violin has rarely been played.

Find the biggest and smallest instruments in this gallery. Which one would you like to play? This Roman boxer sits after a fight, still wearing his fist guard. This is a cast of an original bronze statue that was made around 2,100 years ago.

How do you think he is feeling?









Statue of the god Sobek

Gallery: 23

Age: About 4000 years old

Height:

Travelled: 2383 miles from

Egypt



Henry VIII Bust

Gallery: 41

Age: 415 years old

Height:

Travelled: **52 miles** from London



Cast of a Bronze Statue – Zeus?

Gallery: 16

Age: 95 years old

Height:

Travelled: **1540 miles** from Athens, Greece



Fragmentary hand and forearm from the Buddha

Gallery: 12

Age: 1800 years old

Height:

Travelled: 4296 miles from

Mathura, India



Shark Tooth Pendant

Gallery: 15

Age: 2400 years old

Height:

Travelled: 1150 miles from Ascoli Piceno, Italy



Elias Ashmole Portrait

Gallery: 2

Age: 340 years old

Height:

Travelled: 52 miles from

London



Harpsichord

Gallery: 44

Age: 250 years old

Height:

Travelled: 52 miles from

London



Picasso's Blue Roofs, Paris

Gallery: 62

Age: 120 years old

Height:

Travelled: 255 miles from

Paris, France



Dish with Unicorn, Lion and Stag

Gallery: 31

Age: 385 years old

Height:

Travelled: 1660 miles from

Iznik, Turkey

Sobek, the crocodileheaded god. The temple this statue is from was completed by the first female pharaoh Sobekneferu.

What other animalheaded gods can you find this gallery? This is a marble bust of Henry VIII. He spent a lot of money on his royal palaces and filled them with lavish furnishings and artworks - Nonsuch Palace cost over £24,000 in 1545 which is equivalent to £22 million pounds today.

What would you put in your own palace?

This cast is said to represent the Greek god Zeus throwing a lightning bolt. The original statue was made around 2,500 years ago and was later found in a shipwreck in Euboea, Greece.

Which other ancient Greek gods and goddesses have you heard of? Can you find any in the gallery?







From 100–200 AD, this sandstone hand comes from a monumental sized Buddha statue. The hand is raised in a blessing gesture to dispel fear.

What do you think the rest of the statue looked like?

A shark tooth turned into a piece of jewellery, decorated with gold, of Etruscan origin.

Who do you think wore this? What other pieces of jewellery can you see?

This portrait is of the person who the Ashmolean Museum was named after.

What pose would you pull if you were having your portrait painted?







The harpsicord creates sound by the mechanism inside plucking the strings. It was made in 1772 but is still played today.

What other instruments are played by plucking the strings?

This painting shows the view out of Picasso's window in Paris.

What noises do you think he could hear whilst he was painting this?

Made in modern day Turkey around 1650, the creator of this dish adopted the Chinese wave and rock pattern for the border.

What animals would you decorate a dish with?









Eight-Day Equation Clock

Gallery: 51

Age: 315 years old

Height:

Travelled: 170 miles from somewhere in Europe



Posy Rings

Gallery: 56

Age: 325 years old

Height:

Travelled: **0 miles (**from Oxford)



The Dovecot

Gallery: 66

Age: 160 years old

Height:

Travelled: 170 miles from somewhere in Europe



Snakes and Ladders

Gallery: 33

Age: 215 years old

Height:

Travelled: 4210 miles from North West India



Great Bookcase

Gallery: 66

Age: 165 years old

Height:

Travelled: 52 miles from

London



Sir Roger De Trumpington **Brass Rubbing**

Gallery: 30

Age: 105 years old

Height:

Travelled: 65 miles from

Cambridge



Lear's Jerusalem

Gallery: 67

Age: 160 years old

Height:

Travelled: 2294 miles from

Jerusalem



Mughal carpet with floral pattern

Gallery: 33

Age: 375 years old

Height:

Travelled: 3929 miles from

Kashmir, India

Gallery: Age:

Travelled:

Height:

In the 18th century, clocks were set by following the sun. This clock has three different dials, one of which shows the months of the year. What do the other dials show?

Find more clocks nearby – which one is your favourite? What makes it special?

These rings are called posy rings, and each has writing on the inside. They were often given at weddings.

Legend has it that these rings inspired a famous writer called Tolkien to write a serious of books based around a ring.

Which is your favourite?

This painting was completed by William Holman Hunt, who selected these pigeons to use as models.

How many other animals can you find in this gallery?







This game was adapted in the late 19th century from older Indian board games, such as gyan chaupar. In this version, players need to reach the centre of the board, rather than the top.

What would your own game look like?

This painted and gilded bookcase was designed by William Burges. Parts of the bookcase show mythical creatures, flowers, and animals.

What's your favourite panel? What makes it special?

This is a rubbing of a brass plaque which commemorated Sir Roger and was made after he died in 1289. He was a knight who fought in the Ninth Crusade. He has a loyal dog at his feet.

What name would you give to his dog? What made you choose it?







This painting is the largest of five versions of this scene painted by Edward Lear. He painted this for his friend, Samuel Price Edwards.

What would you paint a picture of for one of your friends?

This patterned carpet is made with hair from a Himalayan mountaingoat. This material has a fine texture, and allows for thousands of knots to be tied per square metre.

Can you spot other patterns in this room?

Pick an object from the collection that you like. Draw it and add information about it: Which gallery is it displayed in? How old is it? How tall is it? How far has it travelled?





