

Objects Declare Emergency Project: How to get involved

I. Choose a museum object

How you choose your object will depend on whether you already have an existing relationship with a museum or not. If you're a youth panel member, a volunteer, a work experience placement student or working at a museum, you could ask your supervisor to help you to identify relevant objects in the collection.

If you're not already involved with a museum you might want to start by looking to see if there's a museum near you or think about one that you have liked visiting before. Choosing a museum that have made their collections accessible online can help you to find relevant objects. [Here's an example from the National Museums Liverpool.](#)

These online collections usually include some information about the objects, which can help you to uncover their stories. Our Kids in Museums Youth Panel found it useful to narrow down their object choices by searching for common climate change themes, such as fashion, food, fuel and flight.

Here's an example of an Instagram post



[Alt text Dark green wine bottle embossed with 'M Yeo 1728'. The lower part of the bottle is very round and much broader than a modern wine bottle.]

Making glass in the 18th Century was resource-intensive and difficult. Bottles were reused and often marked with the owner's initials. Although modern plastic is cheap and easy to produce, we should think of it like 18th Century glass – personalised and re-usable.

I chose to share this bottle from Swansea Museum because I love that it was made using local materials, such as seaweed. This inspired me to make use of natural resources near me...

I gathered lots of elderflowers and made cordial using this recipe from the Woodland Trust (link in bio).

-Chloe, Kids in Museums

@kidsinmuseums, @swansea_museum, @woodlandtrust

#ObjectsDeclareEmergency, #ClimateEmergency, #MuseumFromHome, #CultureDeclaresEmergency, #NoPlanetB
#NoPlastic, #ZeroWaste

Wine Bottle, Swansea Museum, 1728

© Swansea Museum

2. Create your post

We will ask you to provide specific information to us in order to create your Instagram post. You will see the template form at the end of this document with all the details we will need. Below you will see the steps you will need to make in order to create your post:

1. Object image
 - Once you have chosen your object, Kids in Museums will need an image of it. Instagram posts are 1080 x 1080 pixels, so an image should be at least this size. If you are not working directly with a museum Kids in Museums will need to gain permission to use your chosen image on your behalf. This can take a month or more so please allow time for this.
 - You will be asked to provide the alt text for any images you use when you fill in the template at the end of this document. This will make your post more accessible. You might find this [guide on writing alt text](#) and [guide on making an accessible Instagram post useful](#).
2. Write your post copy quote – you can see an example of this above.
 - Your quote about your object should be no more than 100 words long.
 - Ensure your copy is in plain English, has short sentences, and doesn't use jargon. You may find it useful to check your copy against this [plain English app](#).
 - Think about your audience, this project is aimed at young people so doesn't need to be a museum object label. They want to hear your perspective.
3. Think about creating additional content for your post –
 - As well as your object image you can create some content inspired by your object. You can make posts creative – can you add a video or artistic response to the object? Does it relate to any current events or remind you of a popular film, story or meme? You can see from the example post above that Chloe made elderflower cordial and included an image of her customised bottle.
 - Ensure posts are accessible - if you are filming a video, try using a captioning app, such as Clipomatic. [Here's a guide to captioning videos on Instagram](#).
 - You can submit an additional 50 words about your content after your object quote.
4. Provide other information for your post –
 - For each post we will include the following hashtags #ObjectsDeclareEmergency, #ClimateEmergency, #MuseumFromHome, #CultureDeclaresEmergency, #NoPlanetB as well as the museum the object comes from. Please also provide up to four other hashtags you wish to include with your post. Here's some that might be useful: #TimeToMend, #NoPlastic, #Recycle, #FashRev, #SustainableFashion, #EcoFashion, #PlasticSucks and #ZeroWaste.
 - At the end of your quote include your first name only and if you are part of an organisation such as a youth group please also provide this information.
 - We will tag our @kidsinmuseums account as well as the museum the object came from. Please let us know if you would like us to include other tags such as the organisation you belong to if applicable.
5. When you're ready to submit your post –
 - Please submit the information by using the template below or email it within the body of the email to amber@kidsinmuseums.org.uk.
 - If you have created additional content you wish to be included with your post, such as a film or drawing you have created, please attach files to the email to Amber or for large files, please use [WeTransfer](#).
 - If you would like to include web links in your post, we will use Linktree which you can see in use on the [National Museums Scotland Instagram](#).
 - If you need any further information or have a query about the project please contact laura@kidsinmuseums.org.uk.

Content template

Museum image weblink NB: Please let us know if you would like us to contact the museum on your behalf to gain permission to use the image you have chosen.	
Image/s alt text For your museum object and any content images.	
Quote about your object and content information (Up to 150 words max.)	
Up to four additional hashtags to include in your post E.g. #TimeToMend, #NoPlastic, #Recycle, #FashRev, #SustainableFashion, #EcoFashion, #PlasticSucks and #ZeroWaste.	
Please let us know about additional Instagram accounts you want us to tag at the end of your post	
Additional content for your post Please include a brief description of any additional content you want to include, such as a film or photo you have taken.	