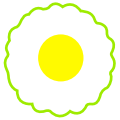




Family Festival of Archaeology

Sat 18 July 11am-4pm

Dig into the archaeology of plants at this year's Family Festival of Archaeology. Explore hands-on making, object handling, storytelling, weaving, poetry and sensory activities for all ages.



Collect a sticker from each activity to become an Ashmolean Archaeologist.

Free family activities, drop in from 11am–4pm unless stated otherwise.

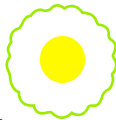
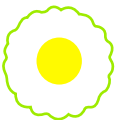
Level -1

Plants from plate to poo: Excavate 'archaeological poo' Headley Lecture Theatre

Learn how archaeologists can use old poo to understand what people ate and how healthy they were. Excavate a 'poo' and identify the types of food that were eaten in the past.

What is Archaeobotany? Headley Lecture Theatre

Learn about the archaeological study of plants, from University of Oxford archaeobotanists. Sort, identify and examine plants under a microscope, and learn what it can tell us about past societies.



Ancient Marks: Make and Draw Learning Studio

Create your own drawing tool from natural and recycled materials, inspired by historical mark-making methods, and experiment with lines, patterns and textures using your creations.

Prehistoric Poetry Pop-Up with Sipho Eric Ndlovu

Live performances at 11:30am, 12:30pm, 2pm, and 3:30pm

Atrium

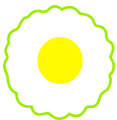
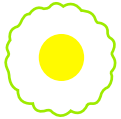
Join Sipho to excavate your creative ideas through poetry, storytelling exercises and spoken word performance.

Hands on Coins

11:30am-3:30pm

Gallery 7

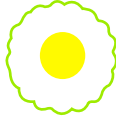
Get hands-on with historic coins from different times and places and discover how they reflect the plants, symbols and everyday lives of the people who used them.



Level G

Smelly Plants of the Past Gallery 21

Test your sense of smell by matching a series of mystery scents inspired by objects in the museum's collection. Can you help invent new words to describe the smells of the past?



Meet the Mesolithic Roaming the museum

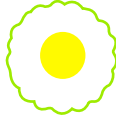
Meet a visitor from 11,000 years ago and discover why plants were important to everyday life while learning how to twine a bracelet from plant fibres using ancient techniques.

PLUS, for ages 12+

Level 1

Threads of History Gallery 31

Explore thousands of years of weaving history by trying a traditional warp-weighted loom and crafting a postcard loom of your own.



Gallery Tour with Archaeobotanist Dr Jade Whitlam

11:30am-12:30pm

Meet in gallery 21, Level G

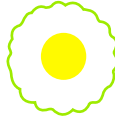
£15, please book ahead

Join Dr Jade Whitlam, Lecturer in Archaeology and archaeobotanist, on a plant-inspired tour of the Ashmolean. Explore the different ways plants have been used throughout history to make and decorate objects, to food and drink, and as medicine. Please book online or buy tickets in the Ashmolean Shop.

Level 2

Plant Paper: Make an origami flower Gallery 35

Practice the ancient Japanese art of paper folding known as origami, using paper made from plants.



Faience wall tile with inlaid daisies, Egypt, New Kingdom, 18th Dynasty (c. 1353-1336 BCE), Gallery 25



Bunch of glass grapes on a hooked stem of bronze and wood, Egypt, 1353-1336 BCE, Gallery 25

Access Information

- A family lunchroom will be available in the Learning Centre from 12-2pm for anyone needing a snack or lunch break.
- There is level access throughout the Museum, with ramps into the building and lifts to all floors. Wheelchairs are available to borrow.
- If you need any assistance during your visit, please speak to a member of our Visitor Experience team.

Credits

With thanks to the School of Archaeology, Oxford Lifelong Learning, our coin handling volunteers, and all participating artists, researchers and contributors.

Follow us @AshmoleanMuseum and join us throughout the summer for more free family activities.

Photographs will be taken during this event.