

What's on for families

March – August 2008

free events
for all ages



Explore...

The National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, has three separate sites to explore.

The Museum Galleries

Uncover exciting stories of people crossing the seas and exploring the world through famous heroes, brave explorers and ordinary seamen.



The Royal Observatory

Find out about the history of accurate standard timekeeping for people across the world, the Greenwich Meridian Line, the planets, stars and the universe.



The Queen's House

See the history of our relationship with the sea through paintings in the exhibition *Art for the Nation*, displayed in this beautiful former royal villa designed by the famous architect Inigo Jones.



What's on for families March – August 2008

A quick guide to activities and information

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Free regular activities for all ages

Find out about people and the sea, ships, time, stars, land and journeys in family activities every weekend, and activities for under-5s every Tuesday.



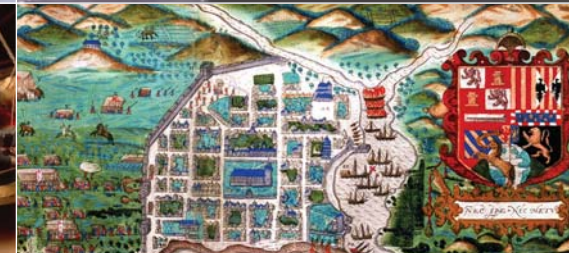
sea



stars



ships



land



time



journeys

Look out for...

- ★ Activities every school holiday
- ★ Special events throughout the year
- ★ Museum Highlights cards and trails



Easter bank holiday weekend

Stories are all around us, used since ancient times across the world to understand our culture and heritage. Explore storytelling from around the British Isles and find out about forgotten myths and legends.



Walk & talk Saturdays

Also Easter bank holiday weekend 21 – 24 March

Meet Neptune, the king of the seven seas, and follow him through the galleries in this exciting performance, to find out how sailors tried to win his favour.

12.00 | 13.00 | 14.00 | 15.00

Museum: entrance

Suitable for ages 6+

Make & do Sundays

Also Easter bank holiday weekend 22 March

Make a magical mask or headdress based on the fantastical stories sailors created about sea monsters and mermaids.

11.30 – 13.30 | 14.00 – 16.00

Museum: Mess Deck

Suitable for all ages

Play Tuesdays

Tiddlers

Activities for tiny ones to explore and learn. Please bring a change of clothes as some sessions involve messy play.

10.15 – 10.45 | 11.00 – 11.30

Museum: Activity Room

Suitable for under-3s

Nippers

Activities filled with myth and magic for little ones to explore the mysteries of the sea.

13.15 – 14.00 | 14.15 – 15.00

Museum

Suitable for ages 3 – 5

World Book Day

Saturday 1 March

Sing along, hear stories and make flags for your book review, all with the gang from Greenwich Libraries. Collect a book token so you can get more stories to read at home.

10.00 – 12.00

Museum

Suitable for under-5s



The story that never ends...

21 – 24 March

Join our storyteller to delve into a magical world of British myths and legends to play your part in creating a story.

Storytelling

11.30 – 13.30 | 14.00 – 16.00

Museum: Upper Deck

Suitable for ages 5+

Chinese whispers

21 | 23 | 24 March

Explore the art of telling stories and be part of a giant Chinese whisper. Will you remember all of the story?

Drama workshop

11.00 | 12.30 | 14.00 | 15.30

Museum: E-library

Suitable for ages 5+

Discover: stories, books and magic

Friday 21 March

Find out about much-loved classic novels from our collection before going on to make an illustrated story book to take home.

Behind-the-scenes session and bookmaking workshop

11.00 – 12.30 or 14.00 – 15.30

Museum: Quarter Deck

Suitable for ages 7+





Be inspired by a great British inventor, Isambard Kingdom Brunel, and let your imagination run wild to create new inventions to improve our lives.

Walk & talk Saturdays

Also Easter school holidays 5 – 20 April

Meet Brunel, a man before his time. From gigantic steam-driven ships to large bridges and the world's first underwater tunnel, hear about the pioneering work of the man who created affordable public transport in Britain.

12.00 | 13.00 | 14.00 | 15.00

Museum: Propeller

Suitable for ages 6+

Make & do Sundays

Also Easter school holidays

5 | 12 | 19 April

Design and make a sailing ship for you and your family to explore the world. Where will you travel to first?

11.30 – 13.30 | 14.00 – 16.00

Museum: Mess Deck

Suitable for all ages

Play Tuesdays

(except 8 | 15 April)

Tiddlers

Activities for tiny ones to explore and learn. Please bring a change of clothes as some sessions involve messy play.

10.15 – 10.45 | 11.00 – 11.30

Museum: Activity Room

Suitable for under-3s

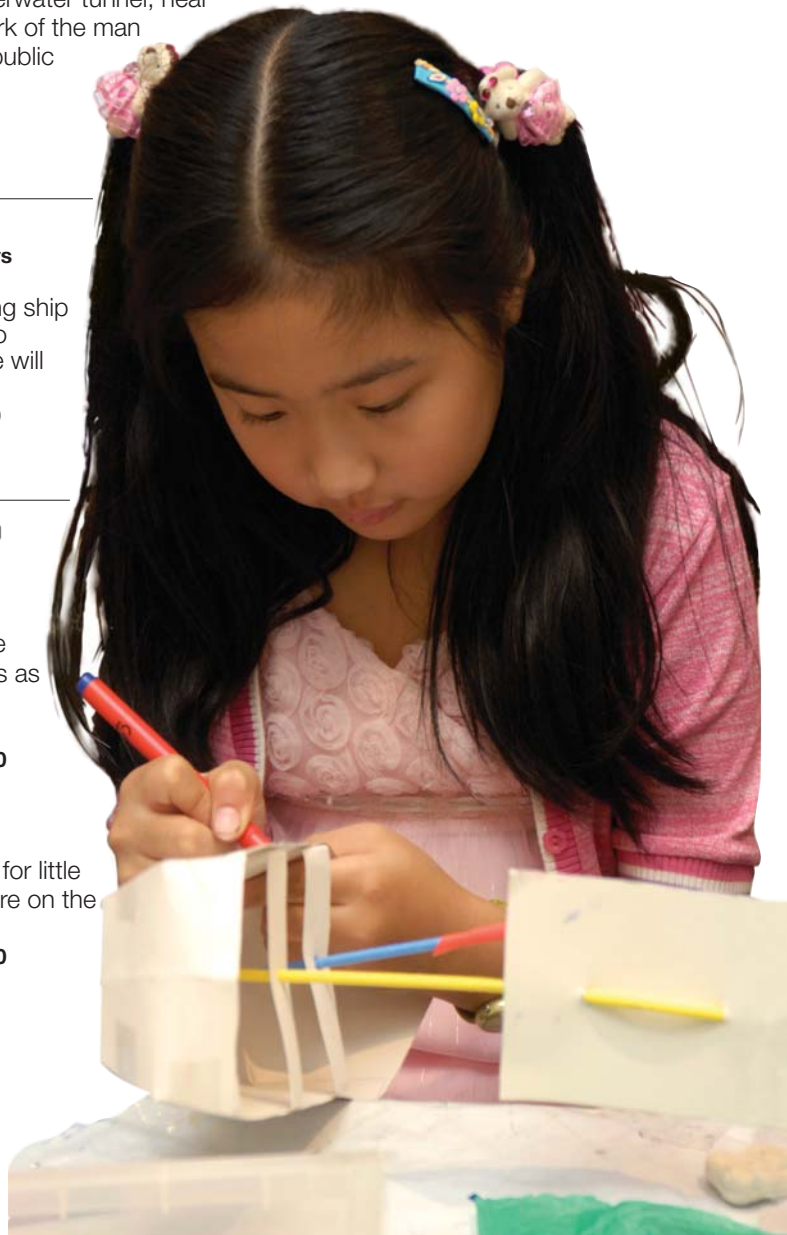
Nippers

Swashbuckling activities for little ones looking for adventure on the high seas.

13.15 – 14.00 | 14.15 – 15.00

Museum

Suitable for ages 3 – 5



Bright sparks

5 – 20 April

Design and make a model of your invention for the future, inspired by great inventions of the past. Plug your model into the giant computer to start the process of making it real.

Drop-in workshop

11.30 – 13.30 | 14.00 – 16.00

Museum: Upper Deck

Suitable for all ages

Channel hop

7 – 11 | 14 – 18 April

Invent a spectacular bridge to cross the Channel from London to Paris in the spirit of Brunel's ambition. The man who designed and built a ship, the *Great Eastern*, to sail non-stop from Britain to Australia and back, something unheard of 200 years ago.

Timed workshop

11.00 | 12.30 | 14.00 | 15.30

Museum: Mess Deck

Suitable for ages 5+

Discover: propulsion power

Friday 18 April

Go on a journey through the Museum to find out about ships built by Brunel. Use his ideas of propulsion to design and make a house paddle-boat, a floating home for you to travel the world.

Museum tour and workshop

11.00 – 12.30 or 14.00 – 15.30

Museum: Propeller

Suitable for ages 7+

Magical voyages

Tuesdays 8 | 15 April

Join 'Sail-Away Jo' on an action-packed interactive tour for young sailors looking for an adventure.

Interactive performance

11.30 | 12.30 | 13.30 | 14.30

Museum: 'Explorers' gallery

Suitable for ages 2+





Welcome to the home of Greenwich Mean Time (GMT) and the Prime Meridian. Time zones help us make connections with people in different parts of the world. Come and find out more.

Walk & talk Saturdays

Also May school holidays 4 | 5 | 25 – 30 May

Meet Ruth Belville, the woman who brought time to everyone and hear about the first public clock in the world, at the Royal Observatory, to show Greenwich Mean Time.

12.00 | 13.00 | 14.00 | 15.00

Observatory

Suitable for ages 6+

Make & do Sundays

Also May school holidays 3 | 24 | 31 May

Make and decorate a sundial to help you measure time passing throughout the day, with your breakfast, lunch and dinner times marked on it.

11.30 – 13.30 | 14.00 – 16.00

Museum: Mess Deck

Suitable for all ages

Play Tuesdays

(except 27 May)

Tiddlers

Activities for tiny ones to explore and learn. Please bring a change of clothes as some sessions involve messy play.

10.15 – 10.45 | 11.00 – 11.30

Museum: Activity Room

Suitable for under-3s

Nippers

Activities on timekeeping for busy little ones with things to do and places to be.

13.15 – 14.00 | 14.15 – 15.00

Museum

Suitable for ages 3 – 5



Timelines

3 – 5 | 24 – 31 May

Be part of drawing a giant timeline marking all the important dates for each person in your family.

Drop-in workshop

11.30 – 13.30 | 14.00 – 16.00

Museum: Upper Deck

Suitable for all ages

Clock-face

5 | 26 – 30 May

Design and make a grandfather-clock headdress, complete with a clock-face mask to wear.

Drop-in workshop

11.30 – 13.30 | 14.00 – 16.00

Museum: Mess Deck

Suitable for all ages

Signing Space

Saturday 10 May



A special signed day of events in celebration of Deaf Awareness Week, including BSL-interpreted planetarium shows. See the stars, visit outer space and even become a planet.

11.00 – 16.00

Observatory

Suitable for all ages

Pre-bookings for family BSL-supported planetarium shows:

telephone 020 8312 8565,

fax 020 8312 6522

e-mail bookings@nmm.ac.uk

Magical voyages

Tuesday 27 May

Join 'Sail-Away Jo' on an action-packed interactive tour for young sailors looking for an adventure.

Interactive performance

11.30 | 12.30 | 13.30 | 14.30

Museum: 'Explorers' gallery

Suitable for ages 2+

Discover: time keeping

Friday 30 May

Find out about the intricate mechanisms that make clocks and watches tick, then go on to make a clock to take home.

Behind-the-scenes session and workshop

11.00 – 12.30 | 14.00 – 15.30

Museum: Quarter Deck

Suitable for ages 7+



Sing & play Sundays

A special musical adventure for little ones to explore rhythm and song with Klio Papadopoulou and students from Trinity College of Music.

10.30 | 11.30 | 13.00 | 14.00

Museum: Activity Room

Suitable for under-6s

These sessions are part of an ongoing collaboration with Trinity College of Music.





Walk & talk Saturdays

Be part of our interactive solar system. Take a spin with Saturn and jump on to Jupiter.

12.00 | 13.00 | 14.00 | 15.00

Museum: Upper Deck

Suitable for ages 6+

Make & do Sundays

Make a space mobile with the planets and stars to take home, and find out about our solar system.

11.30 – 13.30 | 14.00 – 16.00

Museum: Mess Deck

Suitable for all ages

Play Tuesdays



Tiddlers

Activities for tiny ones to explore and learn. Please bring a change of clothes as some sessions involve messy play.

10.15 – 10.45 | 11.00 – 11.30

Museum: Activity Room

Suitable for under-3s

Nippers

Twinkling activities on stars in the night sky for little ones.

13.15 – 14.00 | 14.15 – 15.00

Museum

Suitable for ages 3 – 5

Time Galleries

Explore the importance of time in our lives through the interactive exhibits in the galleries on 'Time and Longitude', 'Time and Greenwich' and 'Time and Society'.

Weller Astronomy Galleries

Discover all about astronomy and our place in the universe. Spectacular interactive displays will help provide answers to big questions, show how astronomers study space, and explain recent developments in modern astronomy.





Walk & talk Saturdays

Hear the experiences of a real polar explorer, Tom Crean. His incredible story of survival in Antarctica will surprise and inspire.

12.00 | 13.00 | 14.00 | 15.00

Museum: entrance

Suitable for ages 6+

Make & do Sundays

Draw a colourful map with a compass, mountains and rivers, and find out about making maps.

11.30 – 13.30 | 14.00 – 16.00

Museum: Mess Deck

Suitable for all ages

Play Tuesdays

(except 29 July)

Tiddlers

Activities for tiny ones to explore and learn. Please bring a change of clothes as some sessions involve messy play.

10.15 – 10.45 | 11.00 – 11.30

Museum: Activity Room

Suitable for under-3s

Nippers

Activities for intrepid little ones to explore countries of the world.

13.15 – 14.00 | 14.15 – 15.00

Museum

Suitable for ages 3 – 5

Giant rhymathon

Friday 18 July

Sing along and do the actions to your favourite nursery rhymes with all your friends. This event is part of the National Year of Reading so look out for more exciting activities at libraries throughout Greenwich.

10.00 – 12.00

Queen's House lawns

Suitable for under-5s



Walk & talk weekends

Meet Bunty, a shipboard stewardess, and find out about life on board a 1930s cruise liner, from dressing up for dinner and deck games to crossing-the-line ceremonies.

12.00 | 13.00 | 14.00 | 15.00

Museum: 'Passengers' gallery

Suitable for ages 6+

Make & do weekends

Make a suitcase and imagine you are travelling to another country. Fill your case with all the special things you will need for your journey and at your destination.

11.30 – 13.30 | 14.00 – 16.00

Museum: Mess Deck

Suitable for all ages



All Hands

A gallery for children of all ages. Try your hand at underwater exploration, load a cargo ship, send a semaphore signal and fire a cannon.

The Bridge

Discover the art of navigation and communication at sea. Become the captain of a ship manoeuvring into port using the state-of-the-art bridge simulator.

'All Hands' and 'The Bridge' galleries are open to families at weekends, on Tuesdays and during school holidays.

Making Waves

What's in a wave? How do they form, move around the world and impact on our coastline? Try your hand at making your own waves and see the action of tides and whirlpools.

Your Ocean

The ocean covers 70% of the Earth and helps to control the entire planet's climate. Discover how we are all affected by the ocean and what you can do to help the environment.





The Museum's collection is full of objects that have journeyed far and wide before settling here, bringing with them stories of the people who once treasured them. Tell us about your travels; the adventures, the memories and souvenirs you brought home.



Postcard home

24 July to 2 September

Tell a friend about an exciting place you have visited. Make a special postcard and stamp complete with beautiful drawings of your memories to post in our red letter-box.

Drop-in workshop

11.30 – 13.30 | 14.00 – 16.00

Museum: Upper Deck

Suitable for all ages

Memory book

24 | 25 | 28 – 31 July | Weekdays in August
1 | 2 September

Make a book using colourful papers to capture your thoughts and memories. Draw the people and places you have visited over the summer holidays.

Timed workshop

11.00 | 12.30 | 14.00 | 15.30

Museum: Mess Deck

Suitable for ages 5+

Tales from the British Isles

28 July | Mondays in August | 1 September

Go on a journey with our storyteller to discover ancient myths and legends from around the British Isles.

Storytelling

11.30 | 13.30 | 15.30

Museum: Lighthouse Optic

Suitable for ages 5+

Tales from Ghana

29 July | Tuesdays in August | 2 September

Hear about the cheeky antics of Anansi the Spider, a trickster like no other, and his travels from Ghana, West Africa, to the Caribbean.

Storytelling

11.30 | 13.30 | 15.30

Museum: Lighthouse Optic

Suitable for ages 5+

Tales from India

30 July | Wednesdays in August

Tell a story through dance and gesture by exploring storytelling through classical Indian dance, Kathak. Please have comfortable clothing and bare feet to take part.

Storytelling and dance workshop

11.30 | 13.30 | 15.30

Museum: Quarter Deck

Suitable for ages 5+

Tales from North America

24 | 31 July | Thursdays in August

Explore the culture and heritage of North American peoples, of Native American Indian and Inuit descent, through stories full of ancient wisdom and humour.

Storytelling

11.30 | 13.30 | 15.30

Museum: Lighthouse Optic

Suitable for ages 5+

Tales from China

25 July | Fridays in August

Stories are often used to teach people moral understanding. Find out about the stories Chinese people created to teach each other to do good things.

Storytelling

11.30 | 13.30 | 15.30

Museum: Lighthouse Optic

Suitable for 5+

Travel the world through stories

29 July | Tuesdays in August | 2 September

Join Kallie Bosran for a story adventure taking you from one country to the next. Find out about regular activities for little ones taking place in Greenwich Libraries.

Storytelling

10.30 | 11.30 | 12.30

Museum: E-library

Suitable for under-5s



Discover: legacies

Friday 22 August

The past can bear hidden influence on us in the present. Uncover truths from the practice of trading people in 18th-century transatlantic slavery, to explore ideas of identity, culture, enslavement and resistance.

Behind-the-scenes session and workshop

11.00 – 12.30 or 14.00 – 15.30

Museum: Quarter Deck

Suitable for ages 10+

This event is part of a weekend of activities for all audiences marking the International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition



Astronomy at the Royal Observatory



Secret of the Cardboard Rocket

Weekends & school holidays 11.00

Take a tour of our solar system with two young explorers in their magic rocket.

Children's planetarium show

Observatory: Planetarium

Children must be accompanied by an adult

Suitable for ages 5+

Black Holes

Weekdays 13.00 | 15.00

Weekends & school holidays 12.00 | 15.00

Explore the mysteries and wonders of black holes. Narrated by Liam Neeson.

Planetarium show

Observatory: Planetarium

Children must be accompanied by an adult

Suitable for ages 7+

Star Life

Everyday 14.00

See how stars are born, grow up, grow old and die in this visually stunning show about star life.

Planetarium show

Observatory: Planetarium

Children must be accompanied by an adult

Suitable for ages 7+

The Sky Tonight

Weekdays 16.00

Weekends & school holidays 13.00 | 16.00

Take a tour of what you can see in tonight's sky with a real Royal Observatory astronomer.

Planetarium show

Observatory: Planetarium

Children must be accompanied by an adult

Suitable for ages 7+



All planetarium shows:

£6 adults | £4 children and concessions

Family ticket £16 (2 adults + 2 children or 1 adult + 3 children)

All the Time in the World

Saturdays & 21 – 24 March

Saturdays & 5 | 26 May

Saturdays & 24 – 31 July

12.00 | 13.00 | 14.00 | 15.00

Hear the fascinating story of the search for longitude and the history of the Royal Observatory.

Performance

Observatory: courtyard

Suitable for ages 6+

Meridian

Saturdays & 6 | 9 | 10 | 13 | 16 | 17 | 20 April

Saturdays in June

Weekends | Wednesdays | Thursdays in August

12.00 | 13.00 | 14.00 | 15.00

Hear the history of the Greenwich site as you stand near the Prime Meridian Line.

Performance

Observatory: courtyard

Suitable for ages 6+

The Life of John Goodricke

Saturday 26 July 13.30

Let John Goodricke, a 17th-century astronomer, tell you about his amazing life story as a deaf astronomer who made new discoveries and won awards, all before he reached 21! This performance is in British Sign Language and is interpreted into English.

Performance

Observatory: courtyard

Suitable for ages 7+



Partial Solar Eclipse

Friday 1 August

09.20 – 11.20

Watch a partial eclipse of the Sun at the Royal Observatory. Astronomers will be on hand with solar telescopes and other observing tools, allowing you to view the disc of the Sun without risk of injury to the eye.

Solar observation

Observatory: Astronomer's Garden

Suitable for ages 5+



Easter school holidays

Under the sea

8 | 11 | 15 | 18 April

Journey into the depths of the sea to meet a diversity of weird and wonderful creatures who inhabit the Earth's oceans in this environmentally focused workshop. Participants will create endangered marine life forms and contribute to a unique under-sea environment. The workshop will include a tour of 'Your Ocean' gallery and an interactive session in the 'All Hands' gallery.

Summer holidays

Out of this world – stomp rockets

Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays
from 29 July to 21 August

Explore our new interactive astronomy galleries to design, make and launch your very own rocket. Take your imagination on a journey of discovery through the solar system in a unique planetarium show created specifically for young visitors.

All workshops are available to three age groups: under-7s, 7 – 11 and 11 – 16

Maximum group size is 30

To reserve a place for your group please contact bookings@nmm.ac.uk or call 020 8312 8575

A £10 returnable deposit payable by cheque is required to confirm your reservation



All activities for families are FREE

Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult at all times

Facilities

Buggy parks are available at the entrance to each site on a first-come, first-served basis

Baby-changing facilities at each site

Lift access to all levels

On-site meter parking at weekends

A road train operates between the Museum Galleries and Royal Observatory

Food & drink

Children's meals, snacks and high chairs are available

Regatta Restaurant and Paul Café at the Museum Galleries

Observatory Café

at the Royal Observatory

Open 10.00 – 16.30

Packed lunches can be eaten in the *Museum: Mess Deck* at weekends

Shops

Children's books, clothes and toys are available

Museum Shop at the Museum Galleries
Meridian Shop and Astronomy Shop

at the Royal Observatory

Open 10.00 – 17.00



National Maritime Museum

Greenwich
London
SE10 9NF
Telephone 020 8858 4422
Recorded information 020 8312 6565
Fax 020 8312 6632

Free admission to all sites

The Museum Galleries
The Royal Observatory
The Queen's House
An admission fee is charged for some special exhibitions and planetarium shows

Opening times

10.00 – 17.00 daily
last admission is 30 minutes before closing

Getting to Greenwich

London travel information
020 7222 1234

Bus

177, 180, 188, 199, 286, 386

Docklands Light Railway

Cutty Sark or Maritime Greenwich

Rail

Central London to Greenwich
20 minutes from Charing Cross, Waterloo
East and London Bridge

River

From Westminster, Waterloo, Embankment
or Tower Piers



- 1 ROYAL OBSERVATORY GREENWICH
- 2 NATIONAL MARITIME MUSEUM
- 3 THE QUEEN'S HOUSE
- 4 CUTTY SARK
- 5 GREENWICH MARKET
- 6 OLD ROYAL NAVAL COLLEGE
- 7 ROMNEY GATE
- 8 ROYAL GATE
- 9 ANCHOR GATE
- 10 BLACKHEATH GATE