

## Materials that Matter

School Session Overview

October 2025

Key information	
<p><b>Length of session:</b> 50mins</p> <p><b>Key Stage:</b> SEND: Pre-key stage, MLD, SLD, PMLD, ASC, EBD</p> <p><b>Location(s) of session:</b> Prince Philip Maritime Collections Centre (PPMCC) Learning space and Paintings Store</p>	
Learning objectives	Curriculum links
<p>Learners will</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Show awareness of different materials and their properties</li> <li>• Develop communication skills through expressing preference and opinions</li> <li>• Develop an understanding of how to store and care for our own possessions.</li> </ul>	<p>Science</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Perform simple tests</li> <li>• Identify and classify materials</li> <li>• Gather and record data</li> </ul> <p>Understanding the World</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Responsibility when caring for their special objects.</li> <li>• What they can do to make sure their special objects are looked after and don't break</li> <li>• Hygiene and how to keep objects clean.</li> </ul> <p>Personal Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Learners will develop communication skills through expressing preference and opinions</li> </ul>
Key words	
<p>science, wood, metal, paper, textile, hard, soft, light, heavy, special, care, safe, bad, pests, clothes, good, sun, light, dark, dirty, clean</p>	
Overview of the session	
<p><b>Introduction</b></p> <p>Facilitator introduces themselves, PPMCC and the session to the learners. If appropriate, learners put on lab coats just like conservators do.</p> <p><b>Investigation of Materials</b></p> <p>Learners examine a variety of objects made from different materials and explore how to keep objects safe. Hands-on investigations of three possible causes of damage (pests, light and human touch) are carried out.</p> <p><b>Painting Store Visit</b></p> <p>Learners tour the Painting Store and, building on their discoveries when investigating the different materials, work together to figure out how best to protect objects in the store.</p>	

Suggested pre visit knowledge/activities	Suggested post visit activities
<p>Share/name a favourite toy or possession and show how you take care of it.</p>	<p>Name what material objects are made from and connect it to what was learned in the session, eg. This book is made from paper. Remember we saw that light can damage paper by making the colours on it fade so maybe we should lower the blind to reduce the amount of light in the room.</p>
<b>Links to useful resources</b>	
<p> <a href="#">Stem Learning   Resource Collection   British Science Week</a>  <a href="#">Conservation   Royal Museums Greenwich</a>  <a href="#">Make a Museum   Royal Museums Greenwich</a> </p>	