



BOULEVARD

OVERVIEW

Introduction to The British Museum: Two Million Years of History & Humanity

Boulevard’s British Museum experience presents a virtual exhibition of forty-eight objects from the permanent collection, displayed within the museum’s illustrious mid-19th-century Reading Room. Spanning approximately two million years and representing a wide range of civilizations, cultures, and peoples, these remarkable artifacts offer a fascinating record of human endeavor, belief, and achievement, and allow the visitor to consider and appreciate many of the threads and complexities of human history.

Inspire Your Students Across Curriculum

The British Museum: Two Million Years of History & Humanity experience supports integrated learning and teaching at any grade level. It provides particularly rich inspiration for making cross-curricular connections and delving into cultural studies, world history, Egyptology, Classical and Near-Eastern studies, anthropology, archeology, comparative religion, economics, literacy arts, and art history.

How to Use This Resource

This resource is designed for use by teachers, educators, and students to enrich their exploration of Boulevard’s immersive experience, to encourage close-looking, “scaffolded” inquiry, and critical thinking. Examine an object in-depth or study a sequence of works for broader contextualization. (Many objects can even be “picked up.”) Our educational materials engage these historic objects through a range of themes, offering multiple ideas for lesson plans, discussion questions, and other suggestions for writing, making, and doing. Depending upon your teaching goals and learning objectives, these activities can be customized and adapted for an entire class, a small-group, or for self-guided learning.

The British Museum

Established in 1753, the British Museum was the first national public museum in the world. Its foundations lie in the tremendous collection of physician and naturalist Sir Hans Sloane, who, upon his death, bequeathed no less than seventy-one thousand objects to King George II to be preserved for the nation. Nearly seven million visitors per year flock to London to see the

institution's now more than eight million artifacts, which span prehistory to the present day. Matching the impressiveness of the British Museum's holdings is the modern Queen Elizabeth II Great Court, the largest covered public space in Europe. At its center, is the Museum's round Reading Room completed in 1857.