Lesson Plans





Title of the lesson	The Arctic Fox and Other Explorers Tour		
Duration	60 mins		
List of resources supplied by NMI	Pencil, clipboard, exercise sheet		
Aims	Learn the history behind the Natural History Collection and the stories of some of the Irish explorers that donated items to the collection.		
	Learn about the habitats of the featured animals and link their endangered status to hunting.		
	Discuss why it was common to shoot and send animals back to Dublin in the latest 19th Century and early 20th Century. Discuss if it's acceptable to collect animals nowadays in the same way the Victor did.		
	Discuss how attitudes towards animals and foreign cultures have changed over the last 100 years (senior classes only)		
List of	Behavioural objectives	Knowledge objectives	
objectives	Interpret museum labels for dates and donors Read floorplan of the museum	Victorian attitudes to animals and foreign cultures Why museums and zoos were started in Europe and North America Explorers were once army or navy officials, now they are mostly scientists Over hunting of animals leads to their endangerment and possible extinction Every person has a responsibility to protect nature and wildlife Modern explorers "leave no trace" after their expeditions	
Instructional input	 Tour: Intro talk- At Statue of Thomas Heazle Park outside museum. Introduce Thomas Heazle Park- saving the life of Lt. Stairs while on expedition with Stanley First Irish person to cross Africa History of Museum- why it was founded, Victorian fascination with nature Why explorers were usually in the Army or Navy 		

•	Why Heazle Park was in the British army
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Tour- Looking at animals in the collection shot and given by explorers.

- Indian/Bengal Tiger shot by King George V of England
- African Lions- the role of zoos, "lion factory" in Dublin Zoo
- Polar Bear Shot by Leopold McClintock
- Elephants and their ivory
- Okapi (called "atti" by Stanley) the "forest Zebra"- Stanley expedition
- Games Heads from Lord Moyne- donation Guinness family after his assassination

Independent practice

Exercise:

Practical- Map exercise

Students must "explore" the museum in pairs with a list of animals and mark their correct location in on their "map"- an adapted floor plan. This is done by placing the correct letter in the box on the map.

Curriculum ties:

Subject	Strand	Strand Unit
Science	Investigating and experimenting	collect information and data from a variety of sources, including maps (practical element of workshop)
	Living things	Plant and animal life
	Environmental awareness and care	Environmental awareness Science and the environment Caring for the environment
Geography	Skills and concepts development	Using pictures, maps and models (practical element of workshop)
	Human environments	People and other lands Trade and development issues (5 th and 6 th Class)
	Environmental awareness and care	Environmental awareness Caring for the environment

SPHE	Myself	Making decisions
	Myself and the wider world	Developing citizenship
History	Story	Stories from the lives of people in the past
	Life, society, work and culture in the past	Life in the 19th century
	Continuity and change over time	Transport Communications
	Eras of change and conflict (5 th and 6 th Class)	Traders, explorers and colonisers from Europe

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