

Using industrial objects to inspire
learning at
**National Coal Mining
Museum of England**



Challenges faced



- Many visitors are now far removed from mining
- A large site
- How to engage and develop a wide and diverse audience
- Telling our story and making connections
- Using our collection
- Making links with the National Curriculum

What does the Museum offer?



Unique underground tour –
Meet a miner or Hands On

Original colliery buildings
to explore



Interactive displays and
exhibits



Hope Pit

Reed beds and bird
hides



Nature trail

What does the Learning team do?

- Have the story of mining from miner guides underground.
- Under 5 sessions – Wacky Wednesday
- Family crafts and art cart
- Pop up activities in the galleries – volunteer led
- Living History characters
- Using and inspiring creatives – art, music, dance, drama, poetry
- Special events
- School programme

Underground tour



Wacky Wednesday



Family learning and art cart

- During the holidays we run family learning sessions – arts and crafts inspired by exhibitions or collection. We use the handling collection to support the activities.
- The Art Cart has activities which are self-led or can be facilitated by volunteers



Pop up activities



Living History characters

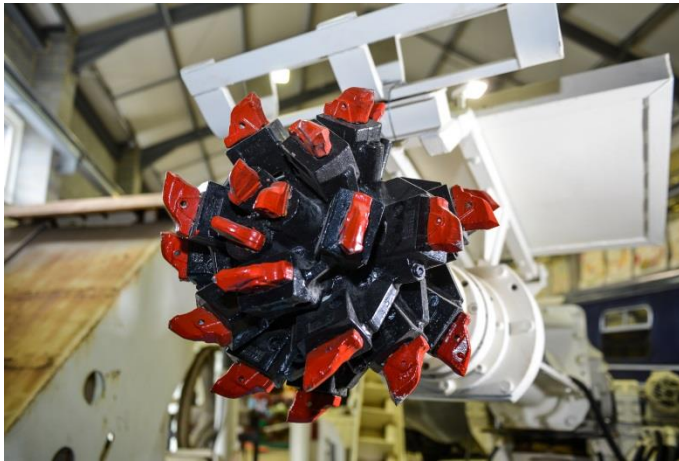


Creative space



Special events

- We run special events including See How They Run – Family Science day and Minecraft comes to life.



School programme



Handle real objects









Why use objects?

1. Everyone can use objects – no literacy or language barriers
2. Stimulate curiosity
3. Creative and emotional stimulus
4. Active learning
5. A concrete experience that illuminates abstract thought
6. Critical observation; higher order thinking skills

POWERFUL MEANINGFUL MEMORABLE

NATIONAL **COAL** **MUSEUM**
MINING
FOR ENGLAND

