

August 2020

This consent form is for parents and guardians of children aged 16 and under who are participating in the *Open Arts Objects* project, #MyTravellingObject.

Dear Parent/Guardian,

We would like to invite your child to participate in an Open Arts Objects production project, led by the Open University: [#MyTravellingObject](#).

Many of us have been spending more time in our homes with lockdown during COVID-19. But what stories do the objects in your home tell? For centuries, people have decorated their homes with objects that have travelled across the globe and which tell fascinating and sometimes troubling stories. Artists too have long been inspired to paint, draw, or mimic imported objects from around the globe.

This project from the department of Art History at the Open University sheds light on commonly found objects in your home and traces their historic origins. We invite your child to take a picture, send us a video, create a still life, or draw your object and tell us your object stories! Find the instructions on how to do so on our [site](#) and follow us on social media to see your object stories featured! We'll then produce some new films explaining the historical display of these objects with expert Art Historians. In the meantime, if you'd like to learn more about Art History, why not check out our 50+ free films on [Open Arts Objects](#).

A short film presented and filmed by your child, a picture taken of an object, or an artwork created by your child, will be posted publicly on social media ([Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), [YouTube](#)) and may be featured on the [Open Arts Archive](#), as part of our widening participation mandate for Art History and our ongoing support for the teaching of Art History in schools, particularly during COVID-19.

The aims of the larger Open Arts Objects project are:

1. To support the learning of Art History in schools
 - a. To support teachers in providing free open access materials including films, teaching support documents, and activities for students.
2. To maintain and support a local and regional presence
 - a. To involve local communities and schools across the United Kingdom and support their own research of local heritage.
3. To enable a wide range of participants to build skills of close-looking
 - a. To embolden communities, regional groups, school children, teachers, and OU students with art historical skills.
4. To support the Open University's Art History impact agenda, by having an effect on, change or benefit to the society, culture, and economy, beyond academia.

The potential benefits for your child are

- to learn skills related to Art History, including visual literacy, formal analysis and close observation
- to learn about how objects travel around the globe and the fascinating as well as troubling stories they can reveal; to look at the world from different perspectives
- if your child produces a film, it will also give your child confidence in front of a camera; to learn to script, choreograph and present pieces to camera;
- if your child creates an artwork, it will give your child the chance to express their creativity.

The film or artwork will be featured on public films on social media as part of the #MyTravellingObject project. Your child will not be identified by their name, unless they choose to introduce themselves by name on camera or include their name on their artwork or you consent below.

The film and/or transcriptions from it may also be used as part of a Research Excellence Framework (REF) 2021 [Impact Case Study](#) (a narrative which describes the change, effect or benefit that resulted from research).

This project is being led by the [Open Arts Objects](#) team at The Open University. If you have any questions about the project, please contact leah.clark@open.ac.uk

If you have complaints about the project, please contact the Head of Art History: FASS-ACEM-ArtHistory@open.ac.uk

We look forward to your support in this project.

Best wishes,
Dr Leah Clark, Senior Lecturer, Art History, The Open University

Consent

Please complete this below form and return to openartsobjects@open.ac.uk along with the film/picture.

Open Arts Objects films

Object submitting (photo/video/artwork)

I consent for my child to take part (please tick each box):

I understand that my child's participation in this project will be their own film/picture/artwork. This will be either compiled within a larger film, and/or will be circulated individually on social media. I understand that the film/picture/artwork will be posted on social media, and therefore maybe re-posted by other parties through social media.	<input type="checkbox"/>
I have read and understood the project information, or it has been read to me.	<input type="checkbox"/>
I understand that the data on this form will be stored in a secure folder only accessible by the Open Arts Objects team.	<input type="checkbox"/>

I would like my child to be identified by the following (delete/complete as appropriate):

Age: (this would appear for example as 'submission by a 9-year-old')

Name: (this can include just a first name or no name at all)

City / County / Country:

Consent (this information is for our files only and will not be shared):

Name of child:

Signed by Parent/Guardian (e-signature accepted)

Name of Parent/Guardian

Email address of Parent/Guardian

Date: