



YOUNG EXPLORERS TOUR: PARENT CHILD GUIDE

Suitable for children aged 5 to 12. Children to be accompanied by an adult.

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Explore our special exhibition gallery with the aid of this specially curated guide for our younger audiences!

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Artefact Name	Caption
Ivory Money Counting Board used in the princely state of Travancore	<p>Look at this cool counting board! It's made of ivory and has lots of little holes for counting money.</p> <p>People would put the coins in the holes and use it to count how much they had. The board has intricate designs at the top with a conch carved in the middle.</p> <p>Can you imagine using a counting board like this to keep track of your allowance?</p>
Elephant Caparison	<p>Check out this shiny golden elephant decoration! It's called a 'nettippattam' and it is worn by elephants during big celebrations in Kerala, in south India.</p> <p>Can you imagine riding on an elephant wearing this? During festivals, you might see elephants wearing these decorations, marching through the streets and looking magnificent!</p>
Doorway of a Syrian Christian House	<p>Observe this beautiful doorway! It's special because it comes from a place called Kerala in India, where a group of people called Syrian Christians live. They're one of the oldest Christian communities in the world, and they have their own unique traditions and ways of living.</p> <p>The doorway has a special symbol on it called the St Thomas Cross, which is important to Syrian Christians. Can you spot it? The doorway is also interesting because it has two big steps leading up to it, and a fancy lock made of brass.</p> <p>How would you design your doorway to your home?</p>
Nilavilakku (Traditional Oil Lamp)	<p>Look at this beautiful lamp called the 'nilavilakku'! It's not just any lamp – it's special and has a unique shape. See how it stands tall and elegant?</p> <p>'Nilam' means ground, and 'vilakku' means lamp. So, it's a ground lamp. People light it up during special ceremonies and cultural performances. Imagine how bright and warm it must make the room feel!</p> <p>Did you know during the Onam festival, the 'nilavilakku' sits in the middle of a fancy flower design called 'athapookalam'?</p> <p>What stories do you think this lamp could tell about celebrations and joy? Let your imagination light up, just like this special lamp!</p>

<p>Puttukutti (Puttu Maker)</p>	<p>Check out this interesting artefact called a 'puttukutti'! It looks like a brass pot with five bamboo tubes sticking out. It's not just a regular pot - there's something special about it!</p> <p>People in Kerala use this to make a tasty treat called 'puttu'. It's like a breakfast or snack made of steamed rice and coconut. They put the mix into those bamboo tubes and steam it using the pot. Imagine the yummy smell when the steam comes out!</p> <p>Why do you think they use bamboo tubes? How long do you think it takes to cook in this special pot? And do you think you'd like to try making 'puttu' with a 'puttukutti'? What other tasty treats do you think people in Kerala make for breakfast?</p>
<p>Nagapadam Mala (Necklace)</p>	<p>Look at this amazing necklace called 'nagapadam mala'! It is called 'nagapadam mala' because of the pendant that looks like a snake's hood. Isn't that cool?</p> <p>Imagine wearing something so unique and special! Why do you think the pendant is shaped like a snake's hood? What do you think it means to the people in Kerala?</p> <p>Can you imagine the stories this necklace could tell? What kind of special occasions do you think someone would wear this beautiful piece of jewellery?</p>
<p>Nettoor Petti (Jewellery Box)</p>	<p>Look at this box called the 'Nettoor Petti'!</p> <p>It is almost like a treasure chest made of rich rosewood with shiny brass/bronze decorations. Can you see the intricate designs on it?</p> <p>In Kerala, women from royal families and temples used this box to keep their precious jewels safe. Imagine having a box so fancy for your jewellery! The people who made this put a lot of care into crafting it.</p> <p>What stories could this box tell about the people who owned it? Can you picture the kind of jewels that might have been kept inside? If you had a box like this, what would you keep in it? Let your imagination sparkle like the brass on this 'Nettoor Petti'!</p>