DISCOVERING FAMILIES

Session outline:
Children will learn about researching family history through portraits and documents in the Museum collection.

Activity 1: Sources
Children will be given copies of old bibles. They will be asked to look at what family information is handwritten inside them. Discuss why it is written in a bible. Learn that the bibles are 'sources' of information. What other 'sources' can they name that may contain family information?

Activity 2: Family Trees
In groups children will be given a copy of the Vaillant family portrait along with information about this Huguenot family from a variety of sources. Children will learn how to create a family tree for the Vaillants.

Activity 3: Inheritance
Using the family tree and portraits, children will be asked to look for similarities and differences between the children and their parents. As a class we will discuss whether these are inherited similarities or not.

Learning Outcomes:
- Ability to create a family tree using sources
- Gain an understanding of inherited family characteristics
- Engage with historic artefacts
- Improve speaking and listening skills

This session is available all year round Tuesday – Saturday please go to www.huguenotmuseum.org/learning for more information on how to book.

INFORMATION FOR TEACHERS
TAUGHT SESSION 3

Key stages: 2 and 3
National Curriculum Subject Areas: History, Art and Design, Science
Length of Session: 1 hour 30 min
Maximum group size: 32 pupils

LEARNING & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
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Suggested pre visit activities:

- Introduce family trees – what they are and what they look like. Have a go at creating a basic two or three generation family tree for their family or a famous family.

- Look at portraits of families throughout time (using paintings and photos) and discuss what they can and can’t tell us about a person.

- Introduce the concept of ‘sources’. What is a primary source/what is a secondary source? Or discuss what documents you can find that will give you information about a person and their family (ie passport, birth certificate, letter from school, writing on the back of a photograph).

Suggested post visit activities:

- Create a family tree for a famous person from history that you might be studying – see if you can use primary or secondary sources to do this.

- Expand on the idea of ‘inherited characteristics’. Talk about what characteristics we might inherit and what characteristics are formed by the way we live.

- For older groups introduce the concept of genes and how they can affect our appearance – this can be taken further to explain dominant and recessive genes.