

Story Mat Feedback from Museums

The Rockband project provided an integrated range of resources to each museum, including my story mats. Comments were on the resources as a whole, but here I have tried to pick out those most focussed on the story mats.

Hampshire County Council Arts and Museums

Comments from staff ...

- A wonderful suite of activities that use the collections and have inspired the use of additional material from the geology collections.
- An off the shelf ready to use resource that is easily transportable.
- The project has increased the geological knowledge of the Keeper of Natural Science as it has enabled dedicated time to the geology collections in order to provide the consultants with information required. The textile map, for example, needed a lot of geological research to produce an excellent representation of Hampshire's geology. A fossil exhibition is being staged in one of HCCAMS's museums in August, a joint project with the Product Design Department of a local 6th form college who have been inspired by fossils.
- Much of the geological work by the Keeper of Natural Sciences has been delivered to partially sighted groups. In addition to reaching new audiences the obvious enjoyment of these groups has been a real privilege

Comments from visitors ...

- I like the cross stitch pattern from the Needles to Old Harry Rocks (Story mat)
- I can recognize Danebury (Story mat)
- I remember seeing Fareham chimney pots (partially sighted visitor)
- I know someone whose house has geothermal power (Story mat)

Canterbury Museums

Comments from staff ...

- The project has resulted in 3 wonderful new activities for gallery and outreach use which have received excellent feedback from participants.
- The resources are exciting, object-based, robust, yet light enough to be used for outreach, come with excellent learning resources.
- They can be used with a wide variety of different audiences including families with children, pre-school and primary school groups, special needs groups, and blind and partially sighted people.

Comments from visitors ...

- My little boy loved the storymat and searching for strange objects in the pockets. The sharks teeth were a great hit!
- Lovely textures and colours, Can adults have a go too?

Swiss Cottage Museum at Osborne House

Comments from staff ...

- Great resources that link well with the collections at the museum and introduces the characters of the royal children through story telling
- Resources (especially mat) are very personal and engaging
- Family friendly resource to trial and practice story telling at the Swiss Cottage Quarter

Comments from visitors ...

- Many thanks again for bringing in the story mat. The children really enjoyed it. (Gurnard Primary School Reception Teacher)
- Enjoyed finding all the items in the mat & enjoyed hiding them again for the next person. Thanks (Parent at School Summer Fayre)
- My kids really enjoyed the story. (Child at story telling at Swiss Cottage)