Family Trail

Dulwich Picture Gallery was built for members of the public, like you! It is the oldest of its kind in the UK

On your way out
In the 200 years that the Gallery has been here it has gone through lots of changes which are now hidden

For example, it was bombed in the Second World War and lost some of its walls

On your way out of the Gallery make sure to call by the red phone box in the car park

CLUE: The red phone box is near the exit of the Gallery Shop

It might look like an ordinary phone box, but did you know that the roof of this type of phone box was copied from the top of this Gallery?

Look at the top of the Mausoleum with its orange windows, now look at the top of the phone box again.

Can you see the similarity?

Just for fun... design a different roof on this phone box

There are so many stories about the Gallery but we can’t tell you all of them now. Come back and see us again and we’ll tell you more

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Dulwich Picture Gallery was built for members of the public, like you! It is the oldest of its kind in the UK.

Follow this trail to discover some of the Gallery’s hidden stories and find out why people from miles around come to see it today.

Supported by the Friends of Dulwich Picture Gallery.

Illustration: www.miko-illustration.com Design: www.jadedesign.co.uk
The paintings you see hanging in the Gallery today were originally collected for King Stanislaus of Poland by two men:
Mr. Noël Desenfans & Sir Francis Bourgeois

In the Entrance Hall...
You can see portraits of these two men hanging in the Entrance Hall today.
Francis Bourgeois has two portraits, one on each side of the grey arch at the top. He painted the one on the right by copying another artist.
Noël Desenfans' portrait hangs on the bottom right – the oval painting in the large gold frame.

Can you copy this painting into the empty frame, so that Noël Desenfans has two portraits like Francis Bourgeois?
Then draw yourself in the Gallery under the arch too.

At the opposite end of the Gallery...
Look at the frames surrounding the paintings. Aren't they grand!!
Find your favourite frame and copy the patterns on to the frame below.

This picture shows how the Gallery used to look almost 200 years ago! It's pretty similar huh?!

FACT:
This picture is a watercolour. We cannot hang it in the Gallery all time as it would fade.

FACT:
The rest of the paintings in the Gallery are painted in oil.

Can you spot 3 differences between this picture and how the Gallery looks now?
1
2
3

FACT:
Many of the frames are not as old as the paintings and not what the artist would have chosen.

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Which pieces of Margaret Desenfans' furniture can you see in this picture?

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Then draw yourself in the Gallery under the arch too.
In The Wolfson Room
Here you will find a room full of landscape paintings. They help tell us what it was like to live in the past.

You can see that when these paintings were made many people used horses to get around.

In 1817, when the Gallery was first opened, visitors like you would have journeyed by a horse and carriage!

In this room find the large painting called Herdsman with Cows.

Look closely at the painting to answer these questions...

How many people can you see in the painting?  
How many birds?  
How many cows?  
How many buildings?  
How many hats?  
How many cows in hats?

Can you see more animals in this room? Name three...

When you have finished here go to the other end of the Gallery.

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In the Mausoleum....
The coffins of Noël Desenfans and Francis Bourgeois are here.

Look at the inscriptions on the marble coffins to discover their full names...

NOEL _______ DESENFANS.  
FRANCIS BOURGEOS.  

Look! There is one empty coffin in here and one with a lady’s name on it.

Write the name here:

There is an animal hidden on the walls of the mausoleum. Which animal is it?

BIRD  SNAKE  CAT  BAT

Around the top of the walls of the Mausoleum you will see a pattern known as a Greek Key. This is also a symbol of everlasting life as the line goes on and on...

Put your pencil in the middle and trace it around to see if you can find a way out.

The columns in the Mausoleum look like solid stone but if you gently tap them you will hear they are actually made of wood and are hollow. This was a clever way to save money because stone was more expensive than wood.

Now turn right and find the room that is painted grey.

This Gallery has something that no other gallery has – a mausoleum – and it is rather odd for a gallery to have one!!

You will find the Mausoleum in the centre of the Gallery hidden at the back. Ask a Gallery Assistant to let you past the rope into the Mausoleum.

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In the Grey Room

Noël Desenfans was married to Margaret Desenfans
Margaret was rich and donated money to help build the Gallery. A lot of the furniture you see in the Gallery today was also donated by Margaret Desenfans.

Can you find a piece of furniture in this room called a Bombé Commode?
Clue: It is decorated with musical instruments
Circle the instruments you can see on the Bombé Commode

- DRUM KIT
- FLUTE
- BAGPIPES
- PIANO
- GUITAR
- RECORDER
- TRUMPET
- HORN

Margaret Desenfans left beautiful silverware and elaborate furniture to the Gallery so that guests could eat dinners such as 'turtle soup', lobster and a 'carriage of fruit'!

Create a funny name for your own fancy recipe:

• REMEMBER •
Do not touch the furniture. It is 245 years old and Margaret wanted it to be here forever!

In the Grey Room

Can you find Rubens' Portrait of a Lady?
This lady is wearing the finest Parisian fashions of her day but can you draw her in a funky new outfit below?

Rubens liked drawing people, how many of his paintings can you find in this room today? Circle the answer below

11 32 107

When you leave this room, turn left to find the next activity

In Room II

Can you find Rubens' Portrait of a Lady?
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FACT
Parisian means something that has come from Paris, the capital city of France. Very chic!

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Rubens is considered one of the best artists of all time. You can see many of his works here today!
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In the 200 years that the Gallery has been here it has gone through lots of changes which are now hidden.

For example, it was bombed in the Second World War and lost some of its walls.

Follow this trail to discover some of the Gallery’s hidden stories and find out why people from miles around come to see it today!

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