

# LANGUAGES: YOUR PASSPORT TO THE WORLD

**11AM – 5PM**

→ **SAT 20 OCT**

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We use languages every day, probably without even thinking about it... but what can we learn from the stories that lurk beneath the surface of our common knowledge about languages? For example: which are the hardest languages to learn? Can a language ever be 'pure'? How and why is the language we use in a text message or on social media different from the way we speak?

Explore the weird and wonderful world of languages, travelling around the different activities, receiving a stamp for each one that you visit. How many can you collect? These activities, which are perfect for late-primary/early-secondary students, include:

## **ALL IN OUR HEADS**

The human brain is history's oldest codebreaker! Come and find out exactly how your brain helps you to learn languages. What techniques does it use to 'break the code'?

## **ARE WE WHAT WE SPEAK?**

How do we judge people based on how they speak? Do we prefer to listen to people we think sound similar to us, rather those we think sound different? Do we consider some people speak 'better' than others?

## **FOREVER LOST IN TRANSLATION?**

When translating from one language to another, can we really get across exactly the same message? Can a translation ever be 'perfect'? How can we translate really specific expressions, names and even accents? For example, is Harry Potter still called Harry Potter in translations around the world?

## **JUST WRITE IT... RIGHT?**

Is the way we speak just the same as, or completely different from, the way we write?

## **LANGUAGES: EASIER THAN YOU THINK?**

Which are the hardest languages to learn? And the easiest? Does it depend on what our first language(s) is?

## **WHAT LANGUAGES DO YOU ALREADY SPEAK?**

You might think that you only speak one language, like English; maybe, though, you know more languages than you think. Can you recognise words that are borrowed from other languages?

## **THE WORLD'S HIDDEN LANGUAGES**

From really common languages, to much rarer ones, do you know how many languages there are in the world? Are some in danger of dying out? Why might that be?