



Workshop: My M&S History Mystery

Pupils will use the exhibition, M&S magazines, digital resources and selected archive material to find information. This information will enable them to complete a custom-made 4-page workbook, which contains press-out elements to make an historic M&S store front collage. The class will be split into groups, each group researching a different time period.

Duration: 2 hours **Audience:** KS2, up to 30 children **Location:** M&S Company Archive

Learning Objectives:

- To learn about British social history through the story of M&S
- To understand the nature and purpose of an archive
- To select appropriate sources of information to answer questions – historical enquiry
- To find out about what life was like in the past, for people in the local area
- To have fun

Activity	Content
Welcome & Introduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet and greet • Why are you here? What we are going to do. • Housekeeping
What is M&S? What is an archive?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is M&S? What do you already know? • What is an archive? Do you have your own collection? • Why do we preserve objects and documents? • M&S Timeline activity
Tour of the building	Group are familiarised with different zones of the exhibition.
Split into groups	Children are split into groups and allocated a time period.
Activity A	What did M&S look like in the past? Why? Children will use store histories interactive and selected archive material.
Activity B	What did M&S sell in the past? Why? Children will use exhibition and magazines.
Activity C	Who worked at M&S in the past? Children will use exhibition, people interactive and uniforms.
Activity D	Who shopped at M&S in the past? Children will use exhibition, memories page of website and magazines.
Plenary	Groups share what they have learned – by drawing a store front on the wall – with correct facade, products, employees and customers for period. Children will take workbooks back to school to construct their own M&S store front for display.