

HOW TO HOST A VIRTUAL SCHOOL TOUR

Instructions and tips
for Teachers

Get ready to host an EPIC Virtual School Tour

Follow our easy step-by-step guide and you'll soon be voyaging through 1500 years of Irish history with your students – all from the comfort of your classroom or home!

① Gather your materials

The Tour

Journey to EPIC The Irish Emigration Museum without stepping a toe outdoors by using our EPIC Virtual Reality Tour. Available for free on our website, all you have to do is head to www.epicchq.com and select the 'Take a VR Tour' button to get started!

The Worksheets

Combine the EPIC VR Tour with our specially designed worksheets to create your very own 'EPIC Virtual School Tour' experience. Designed to deliver engaging curriculum-relevant content in a safe-learning environment, our worksheets combine elements of active and passive learning along with visual, aural, writing and reading exercises to introduce students to the history and culture of Ireland in a new, imaginative, and fun format.

In the worksheets you can expect to see a mixture of the following activities and prompts:

Did you know... Engaging facts, relevant to the particular gallery's themes

Meet... A featured character or item on display in the gallery

Can you spot... A visual clue to look out for in the gallery

Trivia... A level appropriate question relating to the content in the gallery

Discuss... A prompt for further thought or discussion, tied to the broader themes of emigration and the Irish diaspora

Activity... Fun creative tasks to fuel further engagement

You'll also find some '**Post-visit Questions**' to help summarise and contextualise the experience within class-specific learning outcomes.

② Prep, prep, prep

Host a virtual session before hand, where you run through the instructions in the section 'How to begin your EPIC Virtual School Tour' section of the worksheets, and the first gallery with your students. This will help iron out any problems in advance of the tour.

Depending on the time available to your class and your specific learning outcomes, why not curate your very own mini-tour of EPIC by picking and choosing your favourite galleries or prompts for your students in advance of their virtual tour? You can then discuss these post-visit as a group.

3 Be on call

Get all your students to take part in the tour at the same time, so you can be 'on call', via email or a chat feature, to help with any questions or problems that arise.

4 Make it a competition

Nothing motivates students more than a ticking clock or friendly rivalry! Why not create extra fun challenges for your students to complete? You could put them into 'teams' racing to finish certain galleries; create a conveyor belt with each student having to complete a task in a particular gallery; or give them a particular prompt and a time limit in which to conclude it. The options are endless!

5 Follow-up

Keep students motivated by having a post-visit follow-up session with your class. You can share imaginative responses to the creative tasks, and run through particular trivia questions and some of the activities – and remember, you don't have to do it all!

Prompts such as, What did you learn along the way? Who was your favourite character? What was your favourite gallery? What would you like to learn more about?, will help focus and engage students both in and beyond their Virtual Tour experience.

Stuck? Check out the '**Post-visit Questions**' and '**Discussion...**' cues in the worksheets for some more examples!

EPIC Virtual Workshops

Did you know that EPIC also offers a range of curriculum-focused workshops for students of all ages, delivered via Zoom?

"Pick up the Past" Workshop

Get hands on with history and heritage by exploring SESE curriculum-specific emigrant's stories, such as Isabella McDougall and Thomas Quinn. Students will collaborate with the workshop facilitator to identify museum figures from a range of interesting objects; taking part in a variety of trivia and creative tasks along the way.

"EPIC Women's History" Workshops

EPIC is full of inspiring women who have made a positive impact around the world such as Mother Jones, who fought for worker's and women's rights in 19th & 20th century New York. Exploring the SESE strand, the 'Changing roles of women in the 19th and 20th centuries', students will be introduced to a few key figure's stories, before using what they've learned to inspire a creative output, such as poster making or illustration.

Get in touch

Can't find something? Need extra support? We're here to help! Contact us on groups@epicchq.com if you need any further advice before, during, or after your tour. And don't forget to let us know any feedback that you may have, too!

We also have general primary pre- and post-visit resource packs, which include a range of activities, including character biographies, discussion questions, research prompts, and art and craft activities, easily adaptable for students of all ages and abilities!

EPIC The Irish Emigration Museum
CHQ, Custom House Quay, Dublin 1.

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OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK
10am—6:45pm (last entry 5pm)

BOOK ONLINE
epicchq.com

    
@EPICMuseumCHQ