

LUXEMBOURG FOR KIDS

A DISCOVERY TOUR OF THE MUSEUM

EN

Musée national
d'histoire et d'art
Luxembourg

M_NHA



LE GOUVERNEMENT
DU GRAND-DUCHÉ DE LUXEMBOURG
Ministère de la Culture



LUXEMBOURG FOR KIDS

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LUXEMBOURG
FOR KIDS IS A **DISCOVERY**
BOOKLET FOR CHILDREN OF 6 YEARS AND UP
WHO WANT TO VISIT AND EXPLORE THE MUSEUM
TOGETHER WITH THEIR FAMILY.

THE TOUR COMBINES VARIOUS ACTIVITIES AND LEADS ACROSS
TWELVE STATIONS THROUGHOUT THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MUSEUM.
THE YOUNG VISITORS ARE GUIDED BY WULLES,
THE MNHA'S LOVELY MASCOT.

THE AIM OF THIS TOUR IS IT TO GET AN INSIGHT INTO THE
HISTORY OF LUXEMBOURG IN A PLAYFUL MANNER
AND TO LEARN EXCITING DETAILS ABOUT **CULTURE AND**
EVERYDAY LIFE IN DIFFERENT TIME PERIODS.

(DURATION OF THE TOUR: ABOUT 1.5 HOURS)

WULLES, THE WILD MAN OUR TOUR GUIDE



WANT TO GET TO KNOW LUXEMBOURG BETTER?

Let me help you – I know my way around here! My name is Wulles and I'm the wild man.

But what is a wild man? Well, I'm very strong, and usually I live free and wild with the animals in the woods. There, in the forest, I'm a real champion at hiding. I always have a big stick to fight with and I don't need any clothes because my body is covered with long hair.

Would you like to know what I look like? You'll find me in the corner opposite the info point, near the passage to the adjacent building of the museum. It's a great place for me to keep an eye on things. I used to stand on a pedestal against the wall of the house standing right where the museum is now. I watched over the house and its inhabitants.

It was right in the middle of the city and I was able to keep up with whatever was happening around there. That's why I know so much about the history of Luxembourg. But that was a long time ago. Then they offered me this lovely spot in the museum.

And now I get to guard the artworks.

Let's start discovering the museum together. But be careful, the museum is a really big place and you could get lost like in a labyrinth.

Come on, I'll guide you and show you the best bits!



STATION 1 LET'S BEGIN OUR TOUR AT THE MAIN ENTRANCE AND TAKE THE ELEVATOR DOWN TO LEVEL -5. YOU'LL FIND OUR STARTING POINT ON THE LEFT JUST BEHIND THE ENTRANCE OF THE EXHIBITION.

THE FIRST HOUSES IN LUXEMBOURG

**NEOLITHIC HOUSE OF THE LINEAR POTTERY CULTURE,
RECONSTRUCTED ON THE BASIS OF EXCAVATIONS IN REMERSCHEN, "SCHENGERVIS",
ABOUT 5300–4900 BEFORE THE COMMON ERA**

This is how people lived in a house in the Neolithic. That's the latest period of the Stone Age, when people began to settle and live in one place, build houses, plant crops and do pottery. It all sounds so simple, because those are things we are used to nowadays. But for the people at the time it was a big change, because before that, they had always moved from one place to another. The roof of the house is made of tree trunks and the walls are made of braided branches that were covered with wattle and daub. How could they possibly build a house without using excavators, trucks and cranes? Even the very first step, transporting the tree trunks, must have been very difficult and physically exhausting. Just as there are individual rooms in our houses today, this house too had various living areas. The animals had their own place to sleep, too. Of course people didn't want them to just run around everywhere. Inside the house you can see some pots on a wooden shelf and next to it an oven made of clay. This must be where they did their cooking!



ACTIVITY

**WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT THE HOUSE?
WHAT DIFFERENCES CAN YOU SPOT BETWEEN
THIS HOUSE AND TODAY'S HOUSES?**
WRITE DOWN FIVE THINGS THAT ARE DIFFERENT.

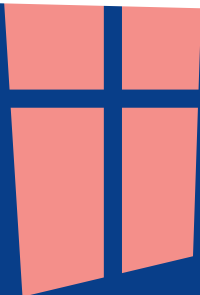
1.

2.

3.

4.

5.



Well, I don't think I would have liked to live in a place like that. I like to wander from one place in the forest to the next and visit my friends, the animals.

ANIMALS



STATION 2 AND NOW LET'S MOVE ON TO LEVEL -4. AFTER WALKING IN, GO STRAIGHT TO THE LARGE GLASS CABINET ON THE LEFT WALL. YOU'LL FIND IT RIGHT NEXT TO THE BIG WALL PANEL. CAN YOU SEE THE BROOCH?

PRECIOUS JEWELLERY FOR A PRINCE

BROOCH, ALTRIER, 5TH CENTURY BEFORE THE COMMON ERA, METAL AGES

A brooch is a needle with a clamp to hold it in place. It is also called a fibula. Fibulas were used to close coats or dresses, for example, because in those days there were no buttons. But they were more than just practical: they were also supposed to bring good luck, or show everybody how rich their owner was. We know that this brooch belonged to a prince, because it was found in his grave. This prince must have been very rich, because his brooch is not only beautifully made: it is also decorated with pieces of green coral. Coral came from far away and was therefore rare and expensive. The brooch is made of metal – that was something brand new at the time. If you look closely at it, you'll see the body and the face of a man.



ACTIVITY

DO YOU HAVE A PIECE OF JEWELLERY THAT YOU PARTICULARLY LIKE? YOU CAN DRAW IT HERE.



Can you imagine wearing a coat without buttons or a zipper and using a brooch? I wonder whether that really kept people warm. I think the brooch is beautiful and if I wore clothes I would want one like that. Fortunately, I have hair everywhere to keep me warm, so I don't need a coat.



A MOSAIC TELLS ITS STORY

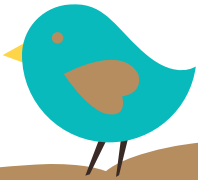
VICHTEN MOSAIC, ABOUT 240 OF THE COMMON ERA

What is a mosaic? If you look closely, you'll see that the floor in front of us is made up of many, many small stones. Just imagine how long it took to place all those tiny stones so that afterwards you saw the pictures and recognized what they represented. This mosaic was laid on the floor at the entrance to a villa – that's what we call a magnificent and big house. It was discovered by chance a few years ago by a farmer who was working in his field. I bet he must have been pretty surprised! Probably more of the villa is still hidden in the ground today. The mosaic looks like a large carpet. But instead of just patterns or shapes, part of it shows nine boxes with figures inside. These are the nine muses. They are the goddesses of the arts. The muse in the middle is next to Homer, the most important poet of the Antiquity. Today we know that the man who owned the Vichten villa with the mosaic was not only very rich, he also knew a lot about poetry, literature and art. He probably wanted to demonstrate that to his guests by displaying this mosaic.



ACTIVITY

THERE ARE MANY INSTRUMENTS HIDDEN IN OUR MOSAIC.
CAN YOU FIND THEM? DRAW OR WRITE DOWN WHAT MODERN
INSTRUMENTS THEY REMIND YOU OF.



Honestly, what a hassle building something like that for a house! As nice as it is, I prefer to sleep in the forest in the moss under the trees. At least I have my peace and it's quiet there, and there are birds to wake me up in the morning.



STATION 4 LET'S KEEP GOING: TAKE THE ELEVATOR UP TO LEVEL -1, THEN GO LEFT INTO THE EXHIBITION AREA. KEEP LEFT AND WALK ALL THE WAY TO THE VERY LAST ROOM. THERE YOU'LL SEE A LARGE LIGHT-BROWN WALL PANEL EXPLAINING THINGS ABOUT CLOTHES. AND IN FRONT OF THAT YOU'LL FIND OUR NEXT DISPLAY CASE.

HAND-MADE CHILDREN'S SHOES

CHILDREN'S LEATHER SHOES, 1ST-4TH CENTURY

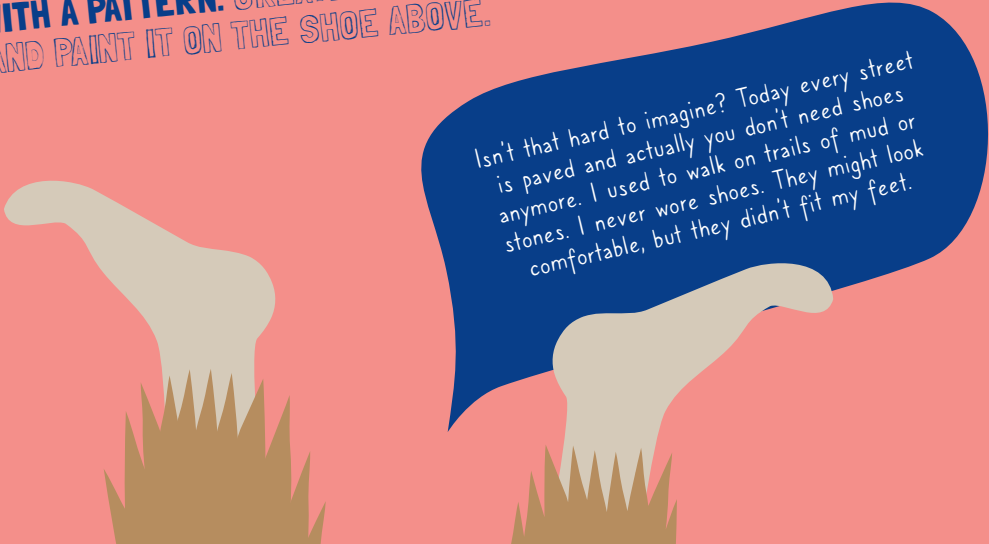
There's a lot to discover in this display case: rings, bracelets, brooches, earrings, but also four soft leather shoes. Hundreds of years ago children wore shoes like that. The worn-out shoes – the dark ones – are the ones that were found. The new, clean shoes behind them have been made using the old as models. That way we know today what the shoes looked like when they were new. They are made of pieces of leather that were sewn together and then turned inside out. They were also decorated a bit: look at the pattern on the front and on the sides. Shoes like that were very common and many people made them themselves at home. When the shoes wore out, they were repaired again and again until they fell apart. With leather shoes like that you couldn't walk through puddles, mud or snow like you do today without getting your feet wet and cold. They certainly were neither waterproof nor warm!





ACTIVITY

**IN THE OLD DAYS SHOES WERE OFTEN DECORATED
WITH A PATTERN. CREATE YOUR OWN PATTERN
AND PAINT IT ON THE SHOE ABOVE.**



Isn't that hard to imagine? Today every street is paved and actually you don't need shoes anymore. I used to walk on trails of mud or stones. I never wore shoes. They might look comfortable, but they didn't fit my feet.



STATION 5 GO BACK TO THE ENTRANCE OF THIS EXHIBITION AREA AND TAKE THE ELEVATOR UP TO THE 1ST FLOOR. THEN TURN LEFT, PAST THE INFO POINT, AND RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER, AND THEN WALK ACROSS THE SMALL GLAZED WOODEN BRIDGE TO THE OTHER BUILDING. HERE YOU CAN TAKE THE ELEVATOR DOWN TO LEVEL -1 (PLEASE PRESS -1 ON THE LEFT SIDE). ONCE YOU ARE DOWNSTAIRS IN THE BASEMENT, GO INTO THE SECOND ROOM AND WALK TO THE STONE TOMB NEAR THE WALL ON THE LEFT SIDE.

THE MIGHTY KNIGHT IN THE BASEMENT

GRAVE OF CLAUDE DE NEUFCHÂTEL, 1505

The man in the suit of armour that you see in front of you is Claude de Neufchâtel. He was a very powerful nobleman. At that time, Luxembourg belonged to the Duke of Burgundy who had chosen him to govern Luxembourg. When Claude de Neufchâtel died, a stone statue was made and placed in a church in the city of Luxembourg, so that people would be reminded of him. Unfortunately, only the lower part of the sculpture is preserved. You can see on the drawing what the upper part of the figure used to look like. In those days, Claude de Neufchâtel was one of the important people who could make decisions about other people. People's lives used to be very different from our lives today. They couldn't just decide things freely, but had to follow certain rules. Their everyday life and their jobs depended on what family they came from. There is a lot to discover in our basement, because during excavations in the city were found things that belonged to many different people. But before you look around, throw a glimpse at the long box next to the tombstone ... if you dare!



ACTIVITY

**WHAT ANIMAL CAN YOU SEE UNDER THE KNIGHT'S FEET?
AND WHY?**



HIS PET DOG,
BECAUSE HE LIKED TO PLAY WITH DOGS.



A FOX,
BECAUSE HE WAS AS SMART AS A FOX.



A LION,
BECAUSE THE LION STANDS FOR POWER AND STRENGTH.



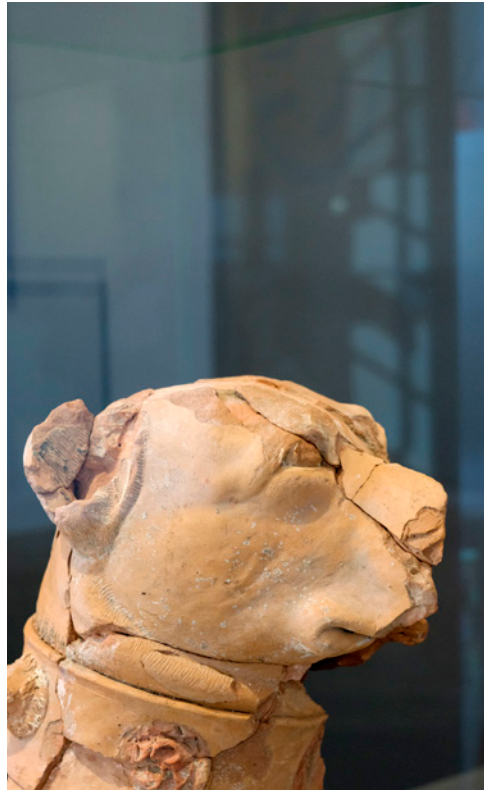


STATION 6 NOW LET'S TAKE THE ELEVATOR AGAIN, THIS TIME UP TO LEVEL 1 OF THIS BUILDING (PRESS NUMBER 1 ON THE RIGHT SIDE), AND WHEN YOU GET THERE MOVE INTO THE FIRST ROOM NEXT TO THE STONE STAIRS. YOU'LL SEE THE DOG STRAIGHT AWAY!

A BIG WATCHDOG TO GUARD YOU

LYING DOG MADE OF CLAY, 1563–1604, OWNED BY PETER ERNST VON MANSFELD

Have you ever seen such a big dog? This clay figure of a lying dog was broken and put together again, but some parts are missing. Still, you can easily imagine that the living model was a beautiful and perhaps dangerous dog. In the old days, kings and princes used to love such big and strong dogs. The model for our dog was probably a Great Dane that belonged to the son of Prince Peter Ernst von Mansfeld. The latter was appointed by the Spanish king as governor of Luxembourg. He fought in many wars. Right above the dog you can see a picture with his face and next to it his beautiful palace with the big park. The palace was built in Clausen, not far away from the museum. Mansfeld bought many works of art and he liked to show his collection to his visitors. He kept many sculptures in a cave in the park. That's where the clay Great Dane was and at the time it was still painted. When visitors came to the cave, some of them might have been scared because at first sight the dog looked almost alive and it looked like it was guarding the entrance.



ACTIVITY

WHAT DO YOU THINK THE GREAT DANE LOOKED LIKE?
FOLLOW THE NUMBERS AND DRAW IT.



That was fun to watch! Of course I'm not afraid of a clay dog. The real Great Dane was dangerous though. Once it almost bit me when I was walking around in the park. Luckily I was able to defend myself with my stick and run away.



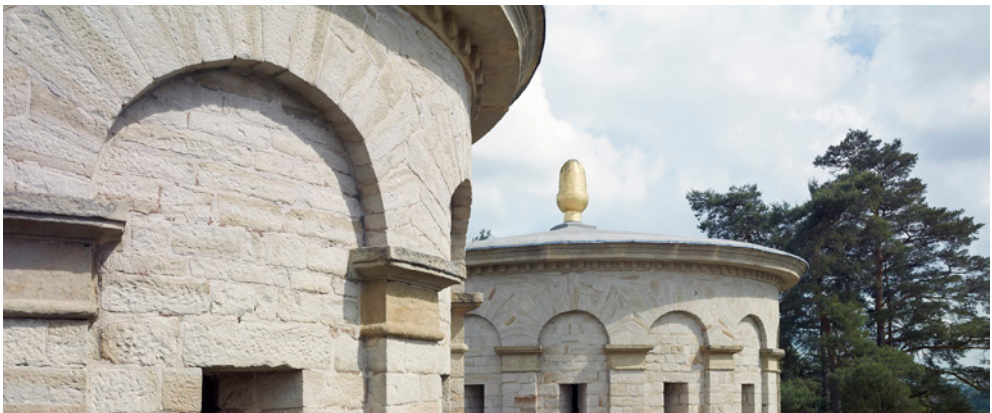
STATION 7 WE STAY IN THE SAME EXHIBITION ROOM.
STAND ON THE MARKED SPOTS ON THE GROUND AND LOOK OUT OF THE WINDOW.

LUXEMBOURG AND ITS FORTIFICATIONS

THE FORTRESS OF THE CITY OF LUXEMBOURG , 16TH-19TH CENTURY

Looking out of the two windows in this room, we still see much of the fortress walls that once surrounded Luxembourg City. Through the window on the right, you'll see high walls and a half-ruined tower on the way towards the city. Because of its shape, the tower is called the "Hollow Tooth"; it is reminiscent of the heavily fortified castle that used to be there. Did you know that the city used to be a huge fortress? There were strict checks of whoever wanted to enter or leave and at night, the city gates were closed. For a long time, other countries wanted to conquer and dominate Luxembourg because its location

between Germany, France and Belgium was important for their own purposes. In order to defend the city, high walls were built and from these, soldiers fought attackers off. Through the left window we see Kirchberg: the building with the three towers is now the Musée Dräi Eechelen (M3E). In the old days it was called Fort Thüngen and it was part of the fortress that was built to defend the city of Luxembourg. Just behind it you can see the pointed glass roof of MUDAM, Luxembourg's museum of contemporary art.



I can still remember well when there were only farms and trees on Kirchberg. All those buildings are very recent additions. When I look around at night now, I'm amazed at all the changes.



ACTIVITY

WHICH OF THESE IS CORRECT?

A

LUXEMBOURG CITY HAD STRONG FORTIFICATION WALLS BECAUSE THE INHABITANTS WERE NOT SUPPOSED TO JUST WALK AROUND FREELY.

B

THE WALLS WERE BUILT TO PROTECT THE CITY AND ITS INHABITANTS AGAINST BOMBS AND CANNON SHOTS AND ENSURE THAT NO ONE COULD ENTER WITHOUT PERMISSION.

C

WHOEVER WANTED TO GET INTO THE CITY BACK THEN HAD TO CLIMB OVER THE WALLS. THE SOLDIERS HELPED THEM CLIMB.



STATION 8 NOW LET'S TAKE THE ELEVATOR TO THE GROUND FLOOR: PRESS THE BUTTON 0 ON THE LEFT SIDE. ONCE YOU'RE THERE, GO INTO THE FIRST ROOM ON THE LEFT.

BEAUTIFUL LIVING WITH WOOD

KÄERCHER STUFF, AROUND 1770/80

This living room, or "Stuff" in Luxembourgish, used to be in a house in the village of Koerich. Walk inside. Let's take a look at the bed together: it's made of wood, and it looks pretty small. You would certainly have enough space to sleep in it comfortably, but your parents might find it rather tight. Back then, when it was built, grown-ups slept in there, too. But because people liked to sleep leaning against pillows, beds used to be smaller than today. Not everybody had their own beds in those days, and often parents shared a bed with their children.

This bed used to be in what was the living room of a carpenter's family. The room looked almost exactly like this room here: the bed, the wardrobe with the clock, and the wall panelling – it was just like this. Visitors sat in this room, and they could see how beautifully made the furniture was. That was a good recommendation for the carpenter. There were no furniture shops in those days and people didn't have as much furniture as we do today. Beds and wardrobes were usually ordered from the village carpenter and they were used for many, many years and then passed on within the family.



ACTIVITY

**THERE IS SOMETHING WRONG IN OUR PHOTO ON THE LEFT.
WHAT DOES NOT BELONG IN A LIVING ROOM OF THE 18TH CENTURY?
FIND AND MARK THE 3 MISTAKES THAT HAVE SLIPPED IN.**

Luxembourg in those days was quite rural and there were many small villages. There were trees everywhere and not as many roads as today. I liked being on the move and I used to wander through the woods from village to village. I can't imagine why people wanted all this furniture. I certainly never needed any.





STATION 9 GO BACK TO THE ELEVATOR AND PRESS 1 (ON THE LEFT), AND THEN WALK ACROSS THE EXHIBITION ALL THE WAY TO THE LAST ROOM. THERE'S A CAR HERE – YOU CAN'T MISS IT!

GREEN LIGHT FOR THE FIRST CARS

"BENZ" CAR, 1895

Surely your family must have one or two cars at home. And there are cars everywhere on the streets, often too many of them... But this car was the very first car in Luxembourg. It belonged to an engineer called Paul Würth, a wealthy man, who bought it in Germany about 120 years ago and had it sent to Luxembourg. On the photo behind the car you can see him out on a ride with his daughter and his niece. But can you tell what is very different about this car when you compare it with cars today? It has no roof!! That meant people could go for rides only in good weather, otherwise they would have become very wet when it rained and terribly cold in the winter. Everyone else had to either walk, ride a horse or get around by horse-drawn carriage. People were quite amazed about this car. When they first saw it, they started shouting and they were terribly frightened by this carriage without a horse. And the car even had an accident: while Paul Würth was trying to show off he crashed it into a tree just in front of the eyes of the Grand Duke!



WHAT DO OUR CARS LOOK LIKE TODAY?
WHAT IS DIFFERENT FROM THIS CAR HERE?
WRITE DOWN FIVE DIFFERENCES.

ACTIVITY

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

Actually the first cars were very slow. On foot I was almost faster. You could only drive it on a road, on tracks in the fields or in the forest you didn't get very far. It was more like a toy for rich people. Who could have guessed that, one day, cars would be as fast as they are today?





STATION 10 FROM HERE LET'S GO ON TO THE SECTION ON ART IN LUXEMBOURG. IT'S ON THE 3RD FLOOR OF THIS BUILDING. GO BACK TO THE ELEVATOR AND PRESS THE BUTTON ON THE LEFT SIDE. THE PICTURE WE WANT TO LOOK AT IS IN THE VERY LAST ROOM ON THE WALL RIGHT NEXT TO THE ENTRANCE.

A NEW LIFE FOR THE BLAST FURNACES

FERNAND BERTEMES, "PUFFY CLOUDS OVER BELVAL", 2006

What's the first thing you notice in this picture? Is it the wide sky with the huge white clouds or the town with the brown buildings in the summer landscape? If you take a closer look you will notice that the brown buildings are old, rusty factories. Belval is a town in the south part of Luxembourg where they used to make steel in glowing blast furnaces. And not only in Belval, but also in other cities in Luxembourg. Lots of money was to be made with steel mills. Nowadays the machines at the Belval plant have stopped working, even though the blast furnaces are still there. And a lot of things have been transformed or rebuilt: the University of Luxembourg has moved there and a brand new district with shops, flats, and restaurants has been built. It will certainly continue to grow. Fernand Bertemes painted several pictures of old factories in Luxembourg.



ACTIVITY

THERE IS A CONSTRUCTION CRANE HIDING IN OUR PICTURE.
CAN YOU FIND IT? DRAW YOUR OWN CONSTRUCTION CRANE.



In Luxembourg, people have been digging for ore for centuries. Even a very long time ago, they already knew how to process it and sell it. No wonder, because they made money that way, and that was something important!



STATION 11 WE'LL GO BACK AND TAKE THE ELEVATOR TO THE 1ST FLOOR (PLEASE PRESS THE BUTTON ON THE RIGHT SIDE) AND LEAVE THIS BUILDING JUST AS WE CAME TO IT, OVER THE GLAZED WOODEN BRIDGE. WALK DOWN THE SMALL FLIGHTS OF STAIRS, STRAIGHT ON TO THE ENTRANCE OF THE COINS AND MEDALS EXHIBITION. WE WILL WALK RIGHT THROUGH THE EXHIBITION TO THE LAST ROOM, WHERE LUXEMBOURG BANKNOTES ARE SHOWN.

THE GRAND DUKES AND THEIR MONEY

BANKNOTES FROM LUXEMBOURG

In this part of our tour we will be talking about banknotes and coins and how money is made. Today, we use the euro as our single currency in almost all of Europe and we can pay for goods in many countries without having to exchange money. It has not always been like this. All the countries in Europe used to have their own money. With the Luxembourgish „Frang“ Luxembourg had its own currency and its own banknotes, too. Because Luxembourg's head of state has been a Grand Duke or a Grand Duchess of the Nassau-Weilburg family since 1890, their portrait could be seen on the Luxembourg

coins and banknotes. Did you know that between 1921 and the introduction of the euro, you could pay for things in Belgium with Luxembourg francs (and vice versa)? The showcase along the wall describes how banknotes were made in the old days: the first picture is a draft, in other words a suggestion of what a banknote might look like in the end. You can see the finished banknote to the left of the metal plate, that was made according to the picture and used like a stamp to print the banknotes. You can compare it to the draft, if you want. There are a few differences!



ACTIVITY

DRAW YOUR OWN BANKNOTE
WITH YOUR OWN HEAD ON IT.

10€

I've seen all the members
of the Grand Ducal family
before, and not everyone can
say that.





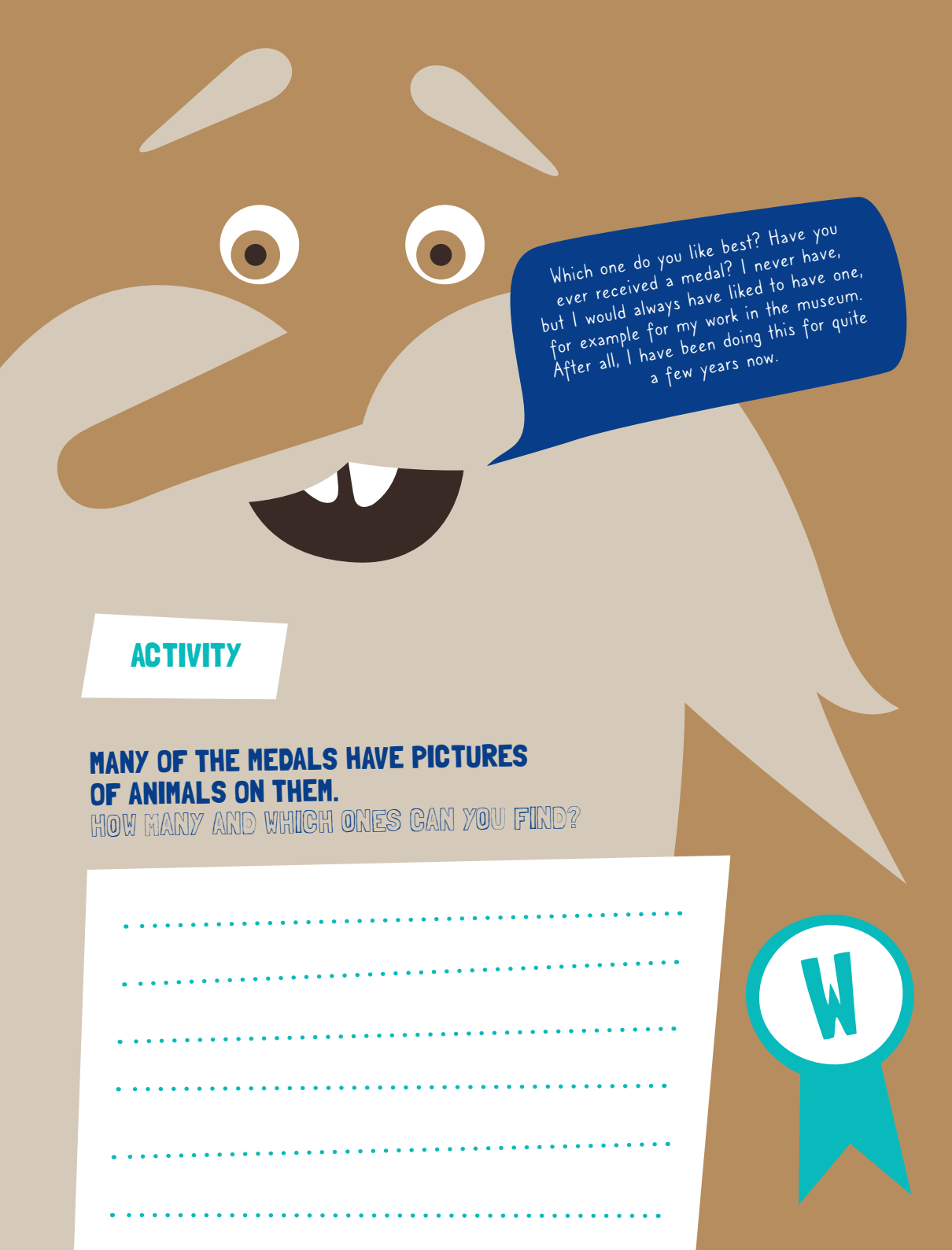
STATION 12 NOW OUR TOUR IS ALMOST OVER AND WE HAVE ONLY A FEW METRES TO WALK STRAIGHT AHEAD ACROSS THE SMALL BRIDGE AND THEN DIRECTLY LEFT TO THE SECOND WALL NICHE IN THE PASSAGEWAY.

MEDALS & DECORATIONS FOR LUXEMBOURG

MEDALS TO COMMEMORATE THE TREATY OF ROME AND MEDALS OWNED BY JOSEPH BECH

In today's Europe, we live in the European Union and that is very important for all of us: the euro is our common currency, it's the money we all use. We are free to travel, to buy and sell things, and to work anywhere across the European Union. We have lived in peace for a very long time. All of this started with the Treaty of Rome. It was signed in 1957 and in it Luxembourg and five other countries promised to develop closer economic cooperation. This sounds complicated, but essentially, it meant that people wanted to do business peacefully together. They also wanted their countries to grow closer together. A few years before there has been World War II, a terrible war between many European countries that has cost many lives and destroyed a lot of things. People wanted to make sure that this would never happen again and they thought that founding what later became the European Union would help to make this hope reality. Joseph Bech and Lambert Schaus, the two representatives of Luxembourg at the Treaty of Rome, were given the many different orders and medals in the showcase by representatives of the other countries.





Which one do you like best? Have you ever received a medal? I never have, but I would always have liked to have one, for example for my work in the museum. After all, I have been doing this for quite a few years now.

ACTIVITY

MANY OF THE MEDALS HAVE PICTURES OF ANIMALS ON THEM.

HOW MANY AND WHICH ONES CAN YOU FIND?

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....





DID YOU FIND ME YET? CONTINUE STRAIGHT AHEAD, TAKE THE TWO SMALL STEPS, AND TURN RIGHT BEFORE THE BRIDGE, YOU'LL SEE ME RIGHT AWAY. TO FIND YOUR WAY TO THE MAIN EXIT, CONTINUE TO YOUR LEFT AND TAKE THE STAIRWAYS DOWN TO FLOOR 0.



SEE YOU AT THE MUSEUM!

What a pity that our tour is over. Come visit me again soon, because there's always something new to discover at the MNHA. Maybe you'd like to take part in one of our children's workshops? There are so many different topics to choose from! You can find information about the workshops at the entrance of the museum and on www.mnha.lu.

FURTHER TIPS FOR EXPLORERS, YOUNG AND OLD

REGARDING STATION NR. 6: A BIG WATCHDOG TO GUARD YOU

Unfortunately, the palace with the park does not look like it did in our picture any more. However, there are some remains that you'll even see today! It's worth visiting the newly opened Mansfeld Park in Luxembourg/Clausen.

REGARDING STATION NR. 8: LUXEMBOURG AND ITS FORTIFICATIONS

Wouldn't you like to learn more about fortresses and military life? The M3E has a nice collection on this topic, and there you can also visit the underground gallery. You'll find information about that at the Musée Dräi Eechelen itself or on www.m3e.lu.

REGARDING STATION NR. 10: A NEW LIFE FOR THE BLAST FURNACES

Would you like to take a look at the old industrial plant? The Belval Fund offers guided tours. There, you'll discover everything yourself and climb up the blast furnaces.

IMPRINT

LUXEMBOURG FOR KIDS

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