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Globes: Visions of the World

**ACTIVITY BOOKLET
FAMILIES**



SEQUENCE 1

SEQUENCE 2

SEQUENCE 3

SEQUENCE 4

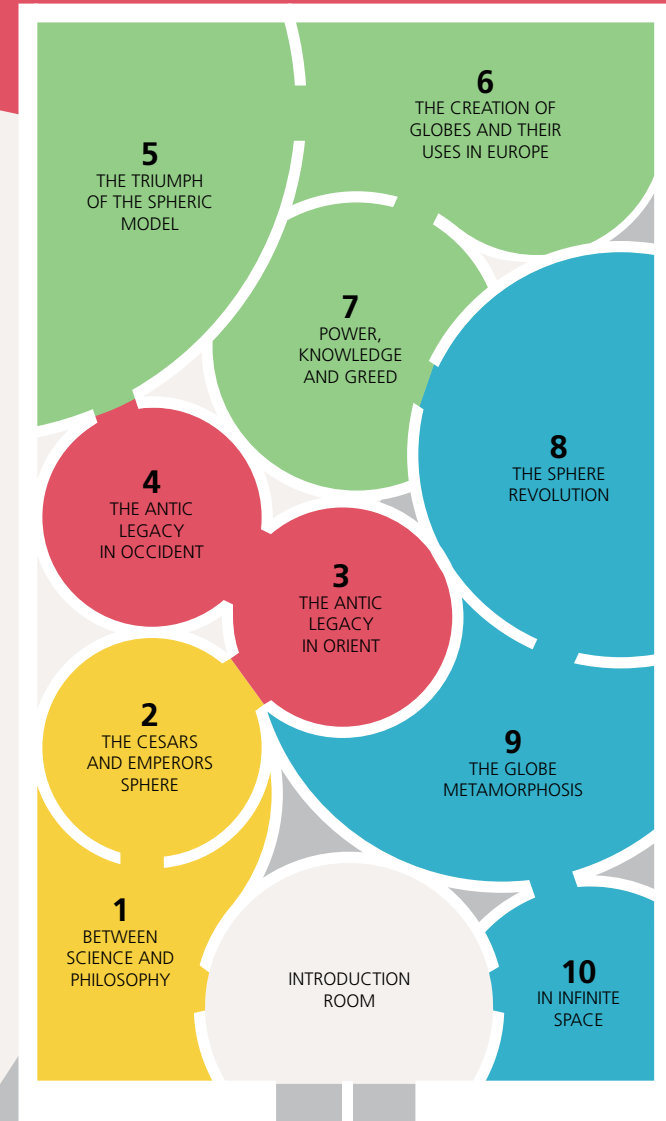
Globes: Visions of the World

You are going to discover the history of spheres, and see how our way of seeing the world has changed from ancient times to the present day. Inside, you will discover many wonderful objects, including globes, maps and coins.

It is important to remember that they are fragile: please help us to protect them by looking at them carefully without touching them.

Use this booklet to walk through the rooms and learn more about the objects on display. Remember to take it with you when you leave to enjoy some of the activities at home.

Enjoy your visit!



Room 1



© Musée du Louvre, Dist. RMN-Grand Palais/Thierry Olivier

Hemispherical sundial with a base decorated with griffin paws.

Pergamon (Turkey), 27 BCE–476 CE. Marble. Paris, Musée du Louvre

Sequence 1:

The Invention of the Sphere

Description

This sundial is hemispherical, which means it only shows part of a sphere. The sphere is hollow, with lines leading from the centre to the edge of the circle. Underneath it you can see the two hind legs of a griffin, an imaginary winged beast with the body of a lion and the head of an eagle. It stands on a rectangular pedestal.



Did you know?

The sundial is one of the first instruments ever invented for telling the time. The shadow cast by an object (called a 'gnomon') shows the passage of time as it moves across a marked-out surface (called the 'dial').

At home

To make your own sundial: stick a straight object (a pencil or a stick) in the centre of a paper plate, and put it outside in the sun. Every hour, draw a line along the shadow cast by the pencil or stick on the hour. Look at a watch or a clock, and write the time on the edge of the plate where the shadow falls (if it's 3 o'clock, write 3, and so on). Now you can tell the time using the sun!

Room 2



cécile serge Oboukheff @BnF-CNRS-Maison Archéologie & Ethnologie, René-Grouais

Winged Victory standing on a globe.

Roman era. Engraved silver. Paris, Bibliothèque nationale de France

Sequence 1:

Description

This engraved silver Roman statuette shows the winged goddess Victory standing on a globe. She is wearing a 'chiton', a kind of dress worn in ancient times, which is drawn in at the waist. Her hair is swept up, and she is wearing a 'diadem' (another word for a tiara). She is holding the sides of her dress in each hand.



Did you know?

The Earth, shown as a small ball, can be seen on many Roman coins from the Imperial Era. Showing a miniature of the world in the hands of the Emperor or the goddess Victory was a way of symbolising Roman domination over the Empire.

In the museum

In this room, there are two coins showing the same thing as the statue: Victory standing on a globe. Try to find them, and show them to the people guiding you around the museum.



© Bibliothèque nationale de France

Ibrahim ibn Saïd al-Sahli al-Wazzan
(attributed to)
Celestial globe

Spain, 11th century. Cast and engraved brass. Paris, Bibliothèque nationale de France

Sequence 2:

Tradition and Reinterpretation of the Sphere in the Islamic and Western Christian Worlds

Description

This is a celestial globe, which means that it shows the sky surrounding the Earth, where the stars and planets can be seen. This one, made of engraved brass, is Islamic and dates back to the 11th century. The horizontal ring represents the horizon, and the vertical ring represents the meridian (the circle connecting the two poles). Understanding the movements of the stars and planets was and is still necessary for performing many acts of worship in Islam.



Did you know?

Celestial globes were among the most frequently used objects in the Islamic world. Almost 200 celestial globes have survived until the present day.

In the museum

Look around you and you will see other globes made in the Islamic world. You can compare them to this one and see how some are presented using multimedia. Why not find out more by taking a closer look!

Room 4



© Bibliothèque nationale de France

Abd al-Rahman al-Sufi (903–86)
Constellations of Centaurus, Lupus and Ara,
in Liber de locis stellarum fixarum,
a Latin translation of the treatise by al-Sufi.

Bologna (Italy), 1250–75. Manuscript on parchment. Paris, Bibliothèque de France.

Sequence 2:

Description

This book was written in Italy in the 13th century. It's a collection of texts on astronomy, translated from Arabic into Latin, including a manuscript on fixed stars by a 10th century Persian astronomer called al-Sufi. The 48 constellations known at the time are shown in this book. On the two pages shown here, you can see drawings of the constellations of the Wolf, the Centaur and the Altar.



Did you know?

In the Middle Ages, the Western Christian world rediscovered ancient astronomical knowledge thanks to texts originally written in Arabic, such as this one. The 48 constellations mentioned in this book were known in Greek Antiquity and described in The Almagest, written by the Greek astronomer Ptolemy (100-170 CE).

At home

Material needed:

- An image of a night sky (search online or find a photo in a magazine)
- A painting tool or a white-out pen

Once you find your stars in a nice shape on the night sky picture, connect the stars to form a pattern or a figure. Make sure you add details in order to personalize your work.



Attributed to Johann Schöner (1477–1547)
Terrestrial globe, called the "Golden globe" or "De Bure" globe.

Widespread Adoption of the Spherical Model

This gilded copper globe was made in 1535 by Johannes Schöner, a German mathematician, cartographer (map-maker) and astronomer. The two halves of this globe are joined together exactly at the Equator, with inscriptions in Latin. Schöner showed Magellan's voyage and identified America as being part of Asia, which is what the Italian explorer Christopher Columbus (1451-1506) believed.



Did you know?

Ferdinand Magellan (1480-1521) was a Portuguese sailor and explorer. He was the first person to sail around the world, from 1519 to 1522. He set sail from Seville, in Spain, and headed west. Although he died during this expedition, he discovered the channel that bears his name – the Magellan Strait – in southern Chile, South America.

At home

Print out a map of the world (or ask your parents if you can use a globe, if you have one at home) and draw the journeys you have made, or would like to make. Travel around the world on the map, just like Magellan did!

Room 5

Description

This map-screen is painted in bright colours on an indigo (dark blue) background by Japanese painters. It shows a map of the world based on European maps made for sailors. You can see six continents: Europe, Africa, North America, South America, Asia and 'Magellanica' (an imaginary continent in the south). This map does not show the world as a sphere; instead it shows that it is flat using straight lines.



Did you know?

The word 'Namban' is connected to the arrival of the first Europeans in Japan. It refers to Europeans as 'barbarians'! In the Namban period (16th-17th centuries), things made in Europe circulated in Japan; they included Dutch printed maps like the one that this screen is based on. It probably served a symbolic purpose, not a practical one, and was probably made for a politician who was curious about the way geography was seen in the western world.



© Louvre Abu Dhabi

In the museum

Look carefully at this screen. Do you recognise some countries or continents? Can you locate the UAE on this map? (without climbing onto the podium, of course!) What about your country of origin? Can you see it on the map?

A Namban style screen with map of the world.

Japan, c. 1690. Ink, coloured pigments and ink on paper. Abu Dhabi, Louvre Abu Dhabi

Room 6



© Bibliothèque nationale de France



© Bibliothèque nationale de France

Willem Janszoon Blaeu (1571–1638) Terrestrial globe
Amsterdam (Netherlands), 1602. Paris, Bibliothèque nationale de France

Willem Janszoon Blaeu (1571–1638) Celestial globe
Amsterdam (Netherlands), 1602 Paris, Bibliothèque nationale de France

Sequence 3:

Description

These globes were made by Willem Blaeu, a Dutch printer and map-maker, in 1602. They were designed to be presented together as a pair: a terrestrial globe (showing the Earth) and a celestial globe (showing the sky). They are the same size (23 cm in diameter and 38 cm tall) and they have matching stands.

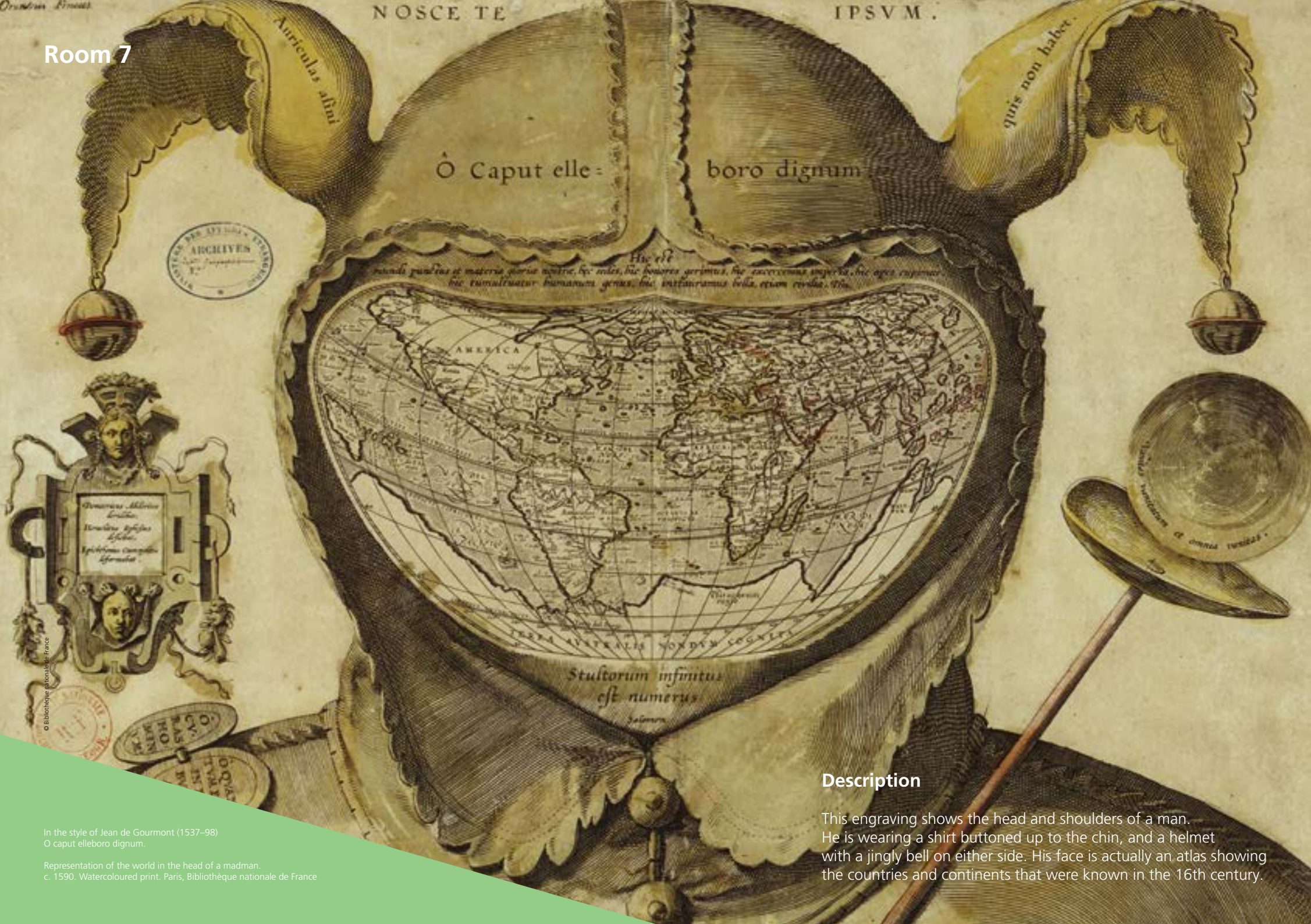


Did you know?

In the 17th century, when these were made, globe-making was a booming industry in Amsterdam. Willem Blaeu was a famous globe-maker who popularised pairs of globes used for scientific purposes and as decorative objects in living rooms.

In the museum

The set of glass cases in front of you presents three pairs of globes made by Willem Blaeu. Can you spot the differences and similarities between them?



NOSCE TE

IPSVM .

Auricula affini

quis non habet

Ô Caput elle-

boro dignum

ARCHIVES
BIBLIOTHÈQUE NATIONALE DE FRANCE

Hic est mundi punctus et materia totius orbis, hic miles, hic honores gerimus, hic excelsas imperia, hic opes cupimus, hic emulcator humani generis, hic instauramus bella, etiam civitas, hic.



Stultorum infinitus est numerus

Salomon



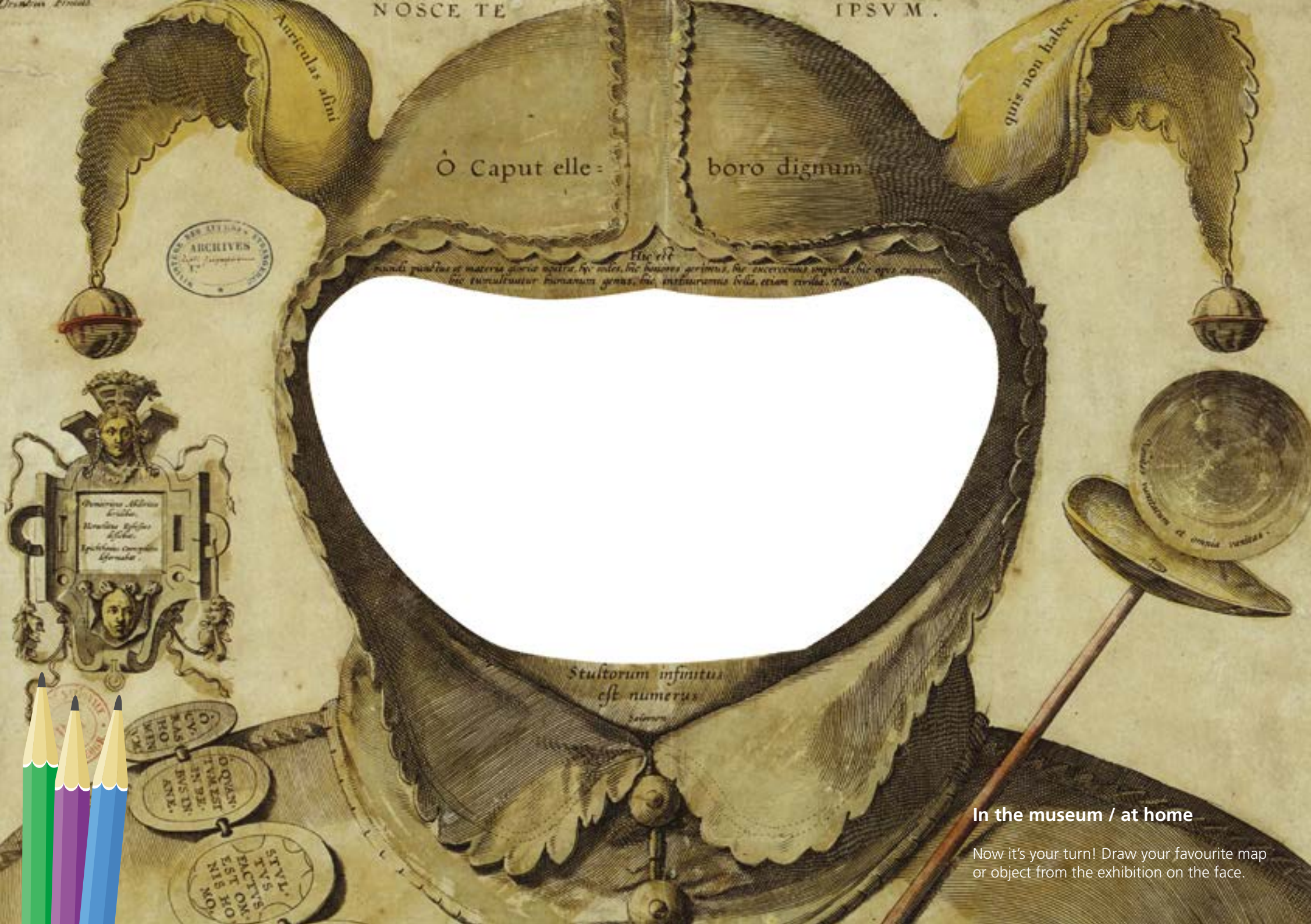
Description

This engraving shows the head and shoulders of a man. He is wearing a shirt buttoned up to the chin, and a helmet with a jingly bell on either side. His face is actually an atlas showing the countries and continents that were known in the 16th century.

In the style of Jean de Gourmont (1537-98)
O caput elleboro dignum.

Representation of the world in the head of a madman.
c. 1590. Watercoloured print. Paris, Bibliothèque nationale de France

© Bibliothèque nationale de France



NOSCE TE

IPSV M .

Auricula alini

quis non habet

O Caput elle:

boro dignum

ARCHIVES
17

Hic est
sandi p[ro]phet[ae] et matris d[omi]ni op[er]a. hic n[ati]vitas, hic b[ea]tiss[im]i g[er]m[in]is, hic excelsiss[im]a imperia, hic op[er]a capto[rum]
hic tumultuatur humanu[m] genus, hic instituruntur bella, etiam corda. etc.

Demetrius Athletas
Ludovicus
Henricus Episcopus
Lilien.
Episcopus Comptis
Lernabat

Stultorum infinitus
est numerus

OVAN
TUM EST
IN PE.
ANX.

STVL.
TAVS.
FACTVS
EST OM.
NIS HO.
MO.

In the museum / at home

Now it's your turn! Draw your favourite map or object from the exhibition on the face.





Nicolas-André Monsiau (1754–1837)
Louis XVI Gives Instructions to Captain La Pérouse, 29 June 1785
1817
Oil on canvas
Versailles, musée national des châteaux de Versailles et de Trianon

Sequence 4:

Spheres & Revolutions: Towards a Universal Model for Representing the World

Description

This painting illustrates a meeting that actually took place in France at the Palace of Versailles on 26 June 1785. Louis XVI (in white, on the right), who was the King of France from 1774 to 1792, received the ship's captain Jean-François de La Pérouse (on the left holding the map) in his library. The map shows Australia, which is where La Pérouse was going next.



Did you know?

In Europe in the 18th century, the most powerful countries, such as England and France, set out to conquer lands that were still unknown. France sent an expedition, led by La Pérouse, to explore the Pacific Ocean. After three years, the expedition vanished without a trace.

In the museum

Look carefully at the people in the picture. What are they doing? What do you think they are talking about? Try to play the scene with the people who are taking you around the exhibition. What countries do you dream of visiting?



© Bibliothèque nationale de France

Anonymous
Planetarium with eight planets

Paris (France), 1856. Paris, Bibliothèque nationale de France.

Sequence 4:

Description

This sphere, known as an 'orrery', represents the solar system with eight planets (from Mercury to Neptune, which was observed for the first time in 1846) arranged around the sun – the centre of this system. The orrery includes an extra arc between Mars and Jupiter, showing the year in which the object was made (1856) and a list of the small planets, visible with a telescope, that are located between the two.



Did you know?

We say that this way of showing the universe is 'heliocentric', which means that the Sun is at the centre of the universe and the planets revolve around it. The astronomical system that used to show the Earth at the centre of the universe is called a 'geocentric' system.

At home

Draw the solar system: put the sun in the middle, and draw circles around it to show the orbits of the planets moving around it. Now draw the planets in the following order (starting with the orbit closest to the sun): Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune, Pluto.



© Centre Pompidou, MNAM-CCI, Dist. RMN-Grand Palais / Philippe Mègeat
© ADAP, Paris, 2017

Alain Jacquet (1939–2008)
Reflexion of a Golden Egg

1988. Synthetic pigments on linen. Paris, musée national d'Art moderne,
Centre national d'art et de culture Georges-Pompidou

Sequence 4:

Description

This artwork is a reproduction of an egg-shaped photograph of the Earth on a piece of linen measuring 8 square metres. 'Reflexion of a Golden Egg' is one of a series of altered photographs of the Earth made by the artist Alain Jacquet from 1972 onwards. This one is egg-shaped, but the artist made other shapes too, like a flying carpet and a donut.



Did you know?

The photograph the artist used was taken during the Apollo 11 space mission. This was an American space mission through which men first landed on the moon on 20 July 1969.

At home / in the museum

Draw a map of the world, or a view of the Earth, on a plastic/foam egg. You can draw several maps and make a set of your own! You can also draw inside the egg on the next page.





Activities at Louvre Abu Dhabi

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Duration: 90 minutes

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Put On Your Mask! (every Friday at 4pm)

Price per workshop: AED 52.5

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(every Saturday at 1.30pm)

Science and Wonder
(every Saturday at 4pm until 2 June)

Price per workshop: AED 52.5

Guided Tours

Duration: 90 minutes

Louvre Abu Dhabi General Tour (daily at 11am)
Globes: Visions of the World (daily at 12pm until 2 June)
UAE Inspired (Friday & Saturday at 3pm)
My First Visit to LAD for Families (Friday & Saturday at 2pm)

Price per tour: AED 52.5
and AED 31.5 (reduced price)

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