



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
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PRESS RELEASE

Learning Activity for families

Inanimate Objects have you then a soul?

The use before reuse

In the context of the **European Academic Heritage Day (Sunday 18th November 2012, 12:00): *Objects in Context?*** organized by **UNIVERSEUM**, the **Athens University History Museum** is launching the learning activity "***Inanimate objects have you then a soul?***" the use before reuse" addressed to families and children aged 5-8 years old.

How do we define the expiry date of an object? What can we do to protect an everyday or a museum object? How clever are our hands? Can we develop a lexicon of touch... in practice? What does *preventive conservation* mean and which are its basic rules? What do we mean by museum handling? How can the art of our everyday life be related to object handling? Which museum specialist will better handle a group of objects during a role play?

Specific exhibits on display such as the portrait of N. Saripolos, professor at the School of Law at the University of Athens (19th century), the *Atlas of Anatomy* (1823) by P. Mascagni, or a dental chair, dated around 1880, will be the starting points of the activity. Through observation, touch, role play, fun and discussion, the participants will discover various secrets for handling museum, as well as everyday objects, learn about their "journey" until their acquisition by the museum and ask themselves: "Inanimate objects / have you then a soul / that clings to our soul / and forces it to love?" * **(this is a free activity, for more information: + 30210 368 9502 – 06).**

* From the poem *Milly ou la Terre Natale* by Alphonse de Lamartine (1790-1869).

