

Which category best fits your application?:

Community

Please provide a short summary of what you plan to do if successful with the grant? (max 250 words):

We would like to use the grant money to build capacity for activities at the museum for children and their families in the school holidays. The museum currently has a curator two days a week and an administrator 20 hrs/ week. The money would allow 7.5 extra days for the curator, an experienced heritage and art educator, to design 12 hands-on sessions for children and families to take part in over a year, with some extra time for training volunteers, marketing the events and to run one or two more in-depth workshop sessions. £190 would be put towards materials for the sessions, with any extra required funded by the museum or other funders. In the Easter holidays, we trialled some craft sessions, offering a keyring making session for £2/ child. This was very popular, being attended by just under 20 children on each of the hour and a half sessions. We would like to offer more craft and handling sessions for both the children of Brixham and our visitors from further afield, but funding and staff time make this challenging.

The first part of this project is already underway, which is to create some explorer backpacks, a self-led activity which will be freely available for visiting families at all times. This second part of the project will add one session per week of school holidays (excepting the Christmas holidays) of hands-on activities led by museum staff and volunteers.

What is the role of your organisation in Brixham?:

Brixham Heritage Museum aims to collect, conserve and display objects related to the people and place of Brixham. Through our collections of objects, archive and research materials, we educate and entertain people of all ages, whilst sharing the story of our town and its' residents. We run a school's service, are available to undertake research on people's behalf, or to provide opportunities for them to undertake their own research. We are the largest free indoor attraction in Torbay, and one of the only places to go with children that is indoors (providing an important service in bad weather!).

When will this project take place?:	From the next holiday at least six weeks after the grant is confirmed.
How will your project further the Community Goal of Brixham chamber of Commerce?:	<p>The activity will fulfil elements of all three of the chamber's goals.</p> <p>The hands-on activities will provide somewhere for parents to come together with their children for a low-cost day out (admission to the museum is free) and provide an important under-cover place to socialise in bad weather.</p> <p>Our activities will promote education and understanding of the town, they will always be related to our collection or things that effect the people of Brixham, providing accessible learning opportunities for families which are also fun and engaging.</p> <p>By providing more for visiting families to do in the town, the activities will enhance the reputation of Brixham as a family-friendly place to visit. The exposure we hope to gain through talking about the activities in the press, attracting families who will talk about their positive experiences on social media, and attracting visitors from the rest of Torbay and beyond will be positive for the town and other businesses who will benefit from the success of the museum too.</p>
Where is the project based?:	Brixham Heritage Museum
How much funding will the project require in total?:	£2610
How much funding has been secured so far and where from?:	We have secured £1610 for the other part to the holiday plan - this is to produce 'Explorer backpacks' (packs of toys, magnifying glasses, dressing up, games, puzzles and books to be borrowed to explore the museum with) from South West Museum Development.
Anything else you'd like us to know about your organisation/project?:	We are keen to prove our ability to run excellent quality sessions for families. Your funding would allow us to try out different things and improve our offer year-on-year.