

Bank of England Museum

Activity Sheet no 4 – Discover the Bank

Age: 12-14 years



The Stock Office

Sir John Soane is the architect most associated with the Bank of England. He came from humble beginnings. What was his father's occupation?

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In which year was a gallery added to Sir John Soane's Rotunda?

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The Goldsmiths were the first bankers in England. When did they start to provide banking services – 1300s, early 1600s or 1800s?

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When Charles II stopped repaying his debts, how many Goldsmiths became bankrupt?

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The Early Years (1694-1800)

What do you think was originally stored in the iron chest?

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How much money was raised when the Bank opened in 1694?

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What form of gambling, that raises money for good causes today, was also popular in 1769?

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The Rotunda (1800-1946)

Kenneth Grahame is best known as the author of "The Wind in the Willows". What connection does he have with the Bank?

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Find a real bar of gold that you can pick up. How much does it weigh?

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The value of banknotes used to be directly linked to gold. This was called the Gold Standard. In which year did the United Kingdom come off the Gold Standard?

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The Banknote Gallery

Which figure has appeared on every banknote issued by the Bank of England?

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When did the Bank start issuing banknotes?

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The Modern Economy (1946-Today)

Which aim of the Bank helps to keep the cost of your shopping under control?

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In addition to HM Treasury, for whom does the Bank of England store gold?

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What is an iZettle reader?

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What two new security features were introduced with polymer banknotes?

1)

2)