

Let's imagine: Crow Down hoard

Each week the Museum is going to publish a 'Let's Imagine' activity sheet. This activity sheet will include a picture of an object in the Museum. It will tell you about the object and then it will be up to you to imagine a story, poem and/or picture inspired by this object. The sheet will include at least three questions or statements to help get you started and inspired.

This week's object is the **Crow Down hoard** that can be found in the permanent exhibition and/or the special exhibition, Hoards. Read the information in blue below to find out more about it.



Imagine you are the metal detectorist who found this hoard. Describe what happened.

Draw a picture of you or a member of your family wearing the items in the hoard.

Write a story or poem about being transported back in time to the Bronze Age. You meet the owner of the hoard. What do you ask them?

These items are known as the Crow Down hoard. They were found by a metal detectorist on the Lambourn Downs in 2004. The hoard consists of five items of gold jewellery (personal adornment) dating from the Bronze Age. The two twisted gold items (at the back) were probably either worn around the neck or the top of the arms. The three plain and undecorated items (at the front) are probably bangles or bracelets so worn around the wrist.

These are objects of high status and would have been highly sought after. The fact that they have been found in this area shows that there were trade routes across a large distance, including Europe. Whilst it is not clear where these objects were made, the gold was probably sourced from Ireland. They were found not far from the Ridgeway, a strategic and much travelled route from prehistoric times onwards, and the Lambourn Seven Barrows (35 separate barrows containing evidence of Bronze Age burials).