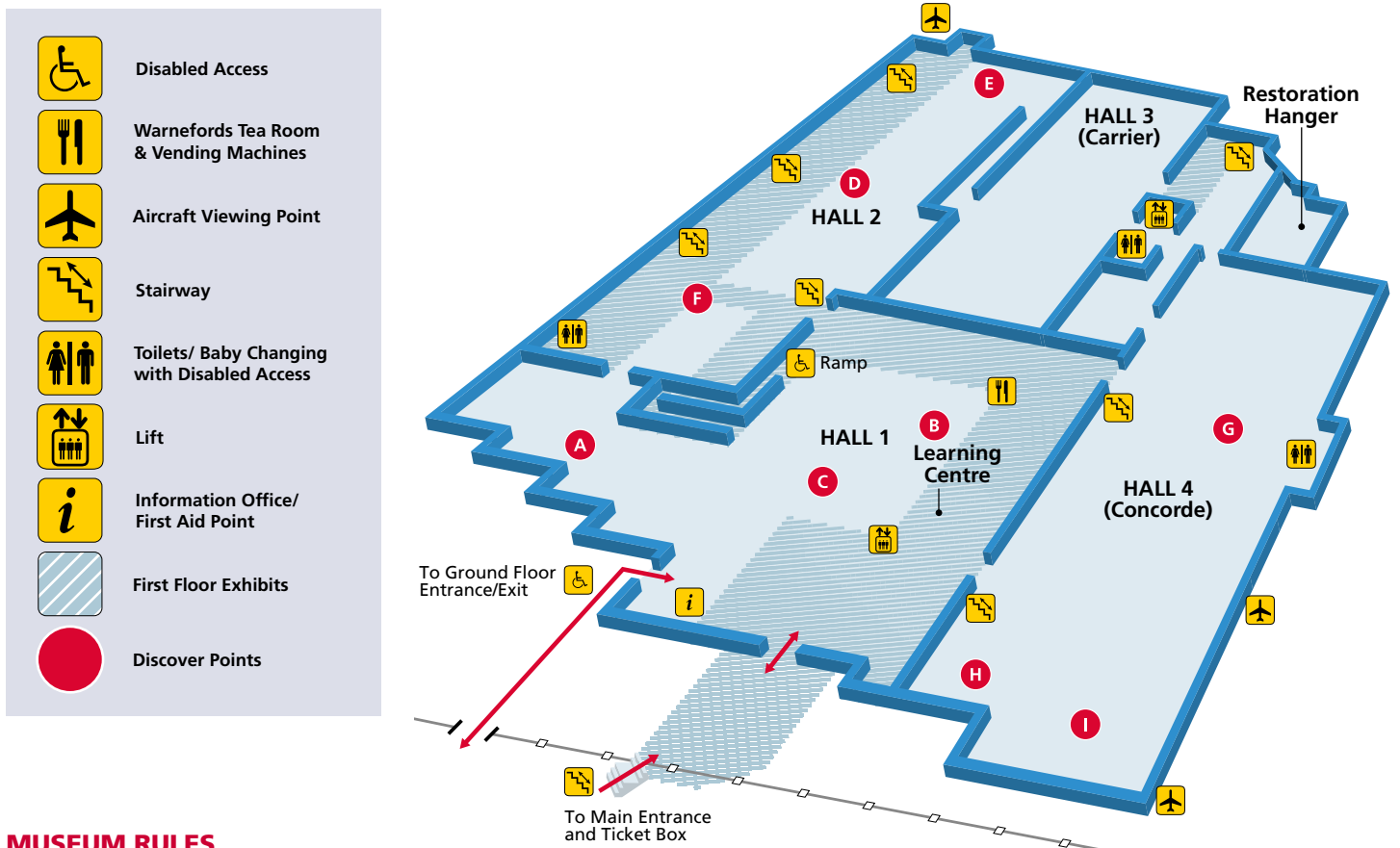




SAVING LIVES IN THE ROYAL NAVY DISCOVERY TRAIL

The Fleet Air Arm is the air service of the Royal Navy, and this museum tells the story of this service from the early 1900s to modern day. It has played a unique role in Britain's defence during conflict and has heavily influenced the development of modern search and rescue at sea.

This trail's overarching theme, 'Saving Lives in The Royal Navy', will guide you on a journey of discovery that celebrates these unique achievements.

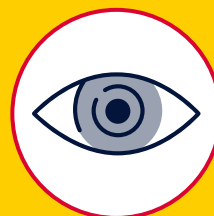


MUSEUM RULES

- Please only eat and drink in designated museum spaces.
- Please do not run
- Please stay in your small groups as you go around the museum
- If you are using the Learning Centre as a lunch space, the door code is **C4590Z**

HINTS & TIPS

- As you go around the museum, you will see our amazing volunteers. Make sure you ask them lots of questions!
- Try using the 'See, Think, Wonder' Model as you go around the museum. What do you **SEE**? What do you **THINK** is going on? What does it make you **WONDER**?



HALL 1

In this hall you will see some of the very first planes to take flight and a model of the Royal Navy's first aircraft carrier.

You will see how the Royal Navy made aircraft that were suitable to land on water and the development of helicopter search and rescue as a response to emergencies at sea.

A SEARCH AND RESCUE AIRCRAFT



See: These aircraft can collect people and animals that have been injured, got lost, or crashed. What features can you spot which might help them do this?



Think: History. The Walrus is an amphibious aircraft, which means it goes in water, on land and in the air! If you look at it from the front, you can see how the underside looks more like the underside of a boat than an aircraft.



Wonder: Why do you think such bright colours might have been chosen on the Sea King? What other colours do you think you could have painted it?



B WW1 PILOTS UNIFORM



See: This Flying suit is over 100 years old. What can you see that might protect the pilot from being wet and cold?



Think Materials: Some of the earliest leather protective gear was made up the road in Yeovil. The leather glove industry was so important in Yeovil that the football club are known as "The Glovers"!



Wonder: What might you wear to protect yourself when riding a bike? How does this compare? What do you think would be most safe?

C THE SOPWITH BABY & THE SHORT 27



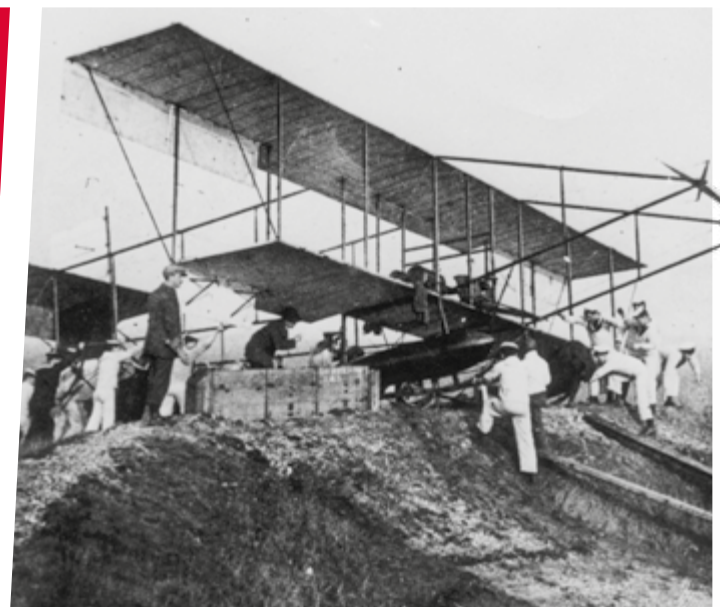
See: When flying these aircraft, why might you need to stay warm and dry?



Think: History. The Short Brothers designed the S.27 and S.184 in this hall—they were able to borrow some ideas from the Wright Brothers in America, who were doing similar things at this time!



Wonder: Imagine you were flying one of these early aircraft. How protected might you feel from the weather, flying debris, or a crash landing?



HALL 2

This hall largely focuses on the Second World War time period, where the Royal Navy's Fleet Air Arm played an important part by protecting the British public from German aircraft.

Aircraft needed to be able to hide in the sky from the enemy attacking them, so they were painted in ways that blended with the colours of the sky and land. When an object blends with its background we say it is 'Camouflaged'.

D LIFE SAVING AIRCRAFT



See: Look at the colours of the aircraft in this hall. Would each aircraft camouflage into the sky, the sea, the land or something else?



Think: Pattern & Colour. On the tail of these planes you can often find a marking that looks like the French flag. At speed the Union Jack would look like a German flag (the iron cross), so this is why the paint work was simplified and made to look more like the French flag.



Wonder: What other colours and patterns could you paint an aircraft to hide it?

E LIFE SAVING EQUIPMENT



See: You had to use a parachute to escape from most of the aircraft in this hall. There is another way to escape an aircraft on show in this hall, can you spot it?



Think: History. The navy roundel (the circles on the wings) is normally blue, white and red circles, one within the other. Why do you think these colours were chosen for the roundel? Hint— think of Britain's union flag.



Wonder: To escape most aircraft in this hall, you would have to walk along the wing of the aircraft and jump off with a parachute. Would you be able to do this mid-air?



F LIFE SAVING PEOPLE



See: In WW2, women recruited into the Women's Royal Naval Service (WRNS) were employed to do a range of life saving jobs that had previously been done by men. What jobs can you think of that women did during WW2?



Think: History. The WRNS were affectionately nicknamed the 'Wrens', after the bird. If you head up the stairs, you can find out more about the roles of the WRNS.



Wonder: Which life-saving jobs do you think you would have been able to do? How many can you still do today?

HALL 4

Today, RNAS Yeovilton is one of the Royal Navy's two main air bases, and one of the busiest military airfields in the UK. Here, you will largely see helicopters as opposed to fast jets, mainly because of their comparative versatility. Royal Navy helicopters operate from land bases, small ships and aircraft carriers in home and international waters.

G CONCORDE



See: Concorde 002 could travel twice the speed of sound. Can you spot how you might escape from it if something happened during flight?



Think: Speed & Distance. All Concordees were painted white, not to hide or stand out, but to reflect heat. It would travel so fast that it would get extremely hot, so needed to find ways to keep it cool whilst flying.



Wonder: Concorde had a max speed of 1,354 mph— that's the same as travelling from the museum to London in 5 minutes! What do you think it would feel like to travel that fast?



H NAVY MISSIONS



See: The Navy don't just fight in wars, they also help people around the world in lots of ways too. Can you see any examples around the helicopters of how the Navy helps in other situations?



Think: Modern Navy. Both Lynx and Sea King Helicopters have been used for delivering aid and responding to emergencies around the world. Today, Wildcats and Merlin helicopters are typically used for this role. These types of helicopters can sometimes be seen flying from the window at the bottom of hall 4 or 2.



Wonder: Imagine you are in an emergency situation, like a flood or natural disaster. How might you feel, before, after and during being rescued by a Royal Navy helicopter?

I HELICOPTERS



See: Helicopters can land in smaller spaces than planes. Why do you think that might be useful when rescuing someone or an emergency situation?



Think: Shape & Size. The Navy needs to think very carefully about painting an aircraft, as each coat of paint adds extra weight. The weight of one coat of paint on a Boeing 747 is about 250KG!



Wonder: In Hall 1 and in Hall 4 we have two Sea King Helicopters painted in different colours. What sort of tasks might need camouflage, and which would require standing out?

