Section 1:

Suggested length of time spent in this area: 10 - 15 mins with up to 10 -15 children at a time due to space restrictions. Section 2 is on the other side of this sheet and can be completed before or after Section 1.

Find the display panel called ‘How do we know about Brent’s history?’ shown in the photo to the right.

1. What is the oldest artefact that you can find in this display panel? What was it used for?

2. What is the newest artefact that you can find in this display panel? What was it used for?

3. Are the oldest artefacts found deeper underground or nearer the surface?

4. Why do you think this is?

5. Find the artefact in the photo to the right.

6. How old is it? ____________________________

7. What was it used for? ____________________________

8. What material is it made from? How would it have been made? ____________________________

The pottery that Anglo-Saxon people made was not very strong and doesn’t often survive. This pot is very unusual.

9. Draw the artefact in the box to the right.

10. Draw a circle around all the materials that you can see in any of the artefacts on the display panel:

wood  clay (ceramic)  paper  fabric  animal skin  metal  glass  stone  plastic
Section 2
Suggested length of time: 10 – 15 mins. Children do not need to be in a particular part of the Museum to complete these questions.

Remains of wood and other plants, animals and people usually rot and don’t survive for very long. Although plastic lasts a very long time underground, it has only been made in the last hundred years.

The places where plants, animals and people are more likely to survive are a very dry place (such as a desert in Egypt) or a very wet place (such as underwater or in very wet ground like peat).

11. How would you describe the area where you live? Is it very wet, very dry or something else?
________________________________________________________________________

12. Think about what you are wearing and carrying right now (such as your clothes, clipboard and pencil). What materials are they made out of?
________________________________________________________________________

13. What evidence of a) your body and b) the things you are wearing and carrying do you think would survive buried in the area where you live for thousands of years?

 a) Your body: __________________________________________________________

 b) Your things: _________________________________________________________

14. In Brent very few ancient artefacts have been found. Tick all the reasons why you think this has happened:

 a) people weren’t looking out for them and so didn’t notice them when they saw them.

 b) lots of buildings and roads have been made in Brent and this digging and building has destroyed artefacts underground.

 c) the artefacts were made of materials that have rotted away.