

# Top Tips from the National Library of Scotland in Supporting Young People to Plan/Curate an Exhibition

- Identify a strong narrative/ theme at the start of the project

What story are you trying to tell? What do you want the visitor to know?

This will help focus your research. If there are multiple youth groups, identify some sub-themes for each group to work on.

- Teamwork

Share the workload, if there are multiple youth groups, work together in teams on a chosen theme/sub-theme. The research will be more in depth which will make for a better outcome.

- Organise regular meetings

Create a timetable and meet regularly with everyone involved to discuss the progress of the project. How is the research going? Do you have ideas for outcomes? Are there any problems/issues that you need assistance with?

- Be realistic about space in the exhibition

Make sure everyone involved knows what the exhibition space looks like and how much space you have to work with. There is no point in creating something that won't fit in the display case. Also, think about quantity, if there are multiple youth groups there might not be space for everything.

- Prioritise

If you have multiple things you want to display in the exhibition prioritise the most important. Does one item tell the story?

- Varied outcomes

Think about alternative ways to present your research. Can the outcome be a performance, a video, a recording or can you create something totally unique?

- Have fun!

Make it enjoyable. Research can be exciting, find an area you are interested in and go for it!

