**Food Stories Exhibition Trail**

**Leader’s Notes**

1. Take a look at the stone fragment. Where do you think this could be from?

   **HINT:** Have a look at the way the people are drawn and the symbols that are inscribed at the top right of the tablet.
   **ANSWER:** Egypt

2. Can you design a similar fragment below telling a story about a celebration involving food?  
   *(No answer required)*

3. This is a food hook from Papua New Guinea (a group of islands near Australia). The people there lived in huts like the one below made of grass, palm leaves and bamboo. The food hook would hang from the ceiling of the hut. Why do you think they would need to use a food hook?

   **ANSWER:** Food hooks were used to store food items away from the rats on the ground. Ceremonial food hooks were used in the Haus Tambarans (a type of traditional ancestral worship house).

4. Why do you think the hook is so beautifully decorated?

   **ANSWER:** It is not essential that the students get this correct, more that they get a chance to explore their own ideas. We think, as mentioned above, this is a food hook that would be used in ceremonies taking place in the Haus Tambarans (a type of traditional ancestral worship house) so would need to look nice.

5. Look at the small, white model of the muskox. What do you think it is made of?  
   Circle the correct answer.

   **ANSWER:** Wood  
   **Tooth/Tusk**  
   Plastic  
   a.k.a Ivory

6. Muskoxen mainly live in Arctic North America and Greenland. What do you notice about the muskox that may help it to survive in these areas?

   **ANSWER:** Lots of thick fur.

7. We don’t see or eat muskoxen in North-East Scotland – what do we have instead that are similar?

   **ANSWER:** Cows/Bulls
8. Take a look at the Netsuke. These are from Japan and were used as toggles on clothing (see diagram below).

What foods can you see carved on the Netsuke?

**ANSWER:** Fish and shellfish.

**NOTE:** Netsuke is pronounced *net-skey*. Japanese men would carry their personal belongings (e.g. pipes, purses, writing implements) hung by cords around the sash of their kimono. The Netsuke were used as a toggle to secure the cord at the top of the sash. See the diagram below.

9. Take a look at the knife. This was used in Asian countries to harvest rice. Do we grow rice in Scotland?

**ANSWER:** No

10. What food group does rice belong to? Circle the correct answer.

**ANSWER:** Dairy Proteins Carbohydrates

11. In Asia today, a lot of harvesting is still done by hand. Can you name a crop we pick by hand in Scotland?

**ANSWER:** Any soft fruit (i.e. strawberries, raspberries, blueberries, blackberries) also sometimes apples and tomatoes.
12. Take a look at the coin. It shows an ear of wheat. Can you design a coin with your favourite food on it?

13. Take a look at the bowl and spoon. These are from the North-East of Scotland and date back to about 200 years ago. What are they made of?

**ANSWER:** Wood

14. This bowl and spoon were used for *brose*. Brose is a traditional Scottish dish made from oats soaked in boiling water or milk. Can you think of something similar using oats that we might eat for breakfast?

**ANSWER:** Porridge

15. If you look closely, you can see that, where the bowl has been cracked, it has been repaired. Is that what we would do now?

**ANSWER:** No, we would just buy a new one or use a different one.

16. Why do you think the people who used it decided to repair it rather than getting a new one?

**ANSWER:** Perhaps the people who owned this bowl were quite poor so could not afford a replacement. Also, it was not as simple as just popping to the shops to get another one – they may have had to make another from scratch!

17. The object below is a tin opener from a farm in Scotland and is designed in the shape of an animal – can you guess what animal? HINT: You can get milk or beef from these animals.

**ANSWER:** Cow

18. Why do we store food in tins? HINT: If we didn’t use a tin, what problems would there be?

**ANSWER:** The main reasons for this are to preserve the food (i.e. stop it going off) and to make for easy storage and transport of the food.
19. Food travels all around the world so that people can enjoy foods which cannot be grown in their country. Can you name 3 foods that don’t grow in Scotland but that we can find in our supermarkets?

**ANSWER:** Many things will be acceptable here. Common answers will be exotic fruits like banana, pineapple, kiwi-fruit, orange also grapes, peppers, avocado, melon...

20. People didn’t always have sugar like we do now. It first arrived in the UK in 1099 and wasn’t widely available until much later (1319). Even then it was a luxury item. Before sugar, what do you think people used instead to sweeten their food?

**ANSWER:** Honey