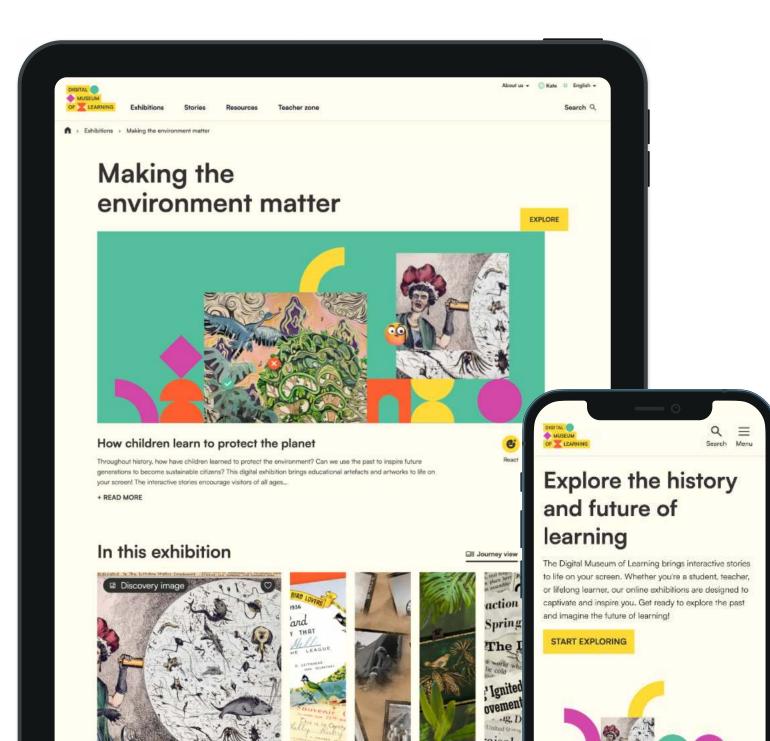


# Digital Museum of Learning



# OF LEARNING



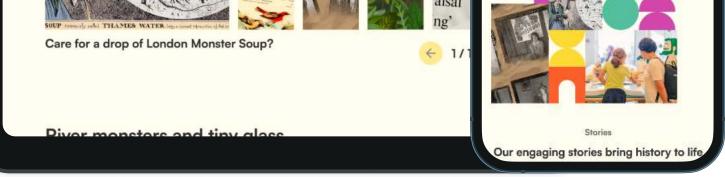
# In today's digital-first era, museums are undergoing a remarkable transformation.

They are moving away from exclusively physical and in-person experiences towards digital technologies that offer enriched educational opportunities.

This shift is helping tackle a global issue: the unequal access to quality education, particularly among children in developing regions. Athlon partnered with the Jacobs Foundation to launch Digital Museum of Learning (DMoL).

This innovative online platform serves as both a museum and teaching hub, offering educators a free resource to inspire children through virtual exhibitions and interactive stories.

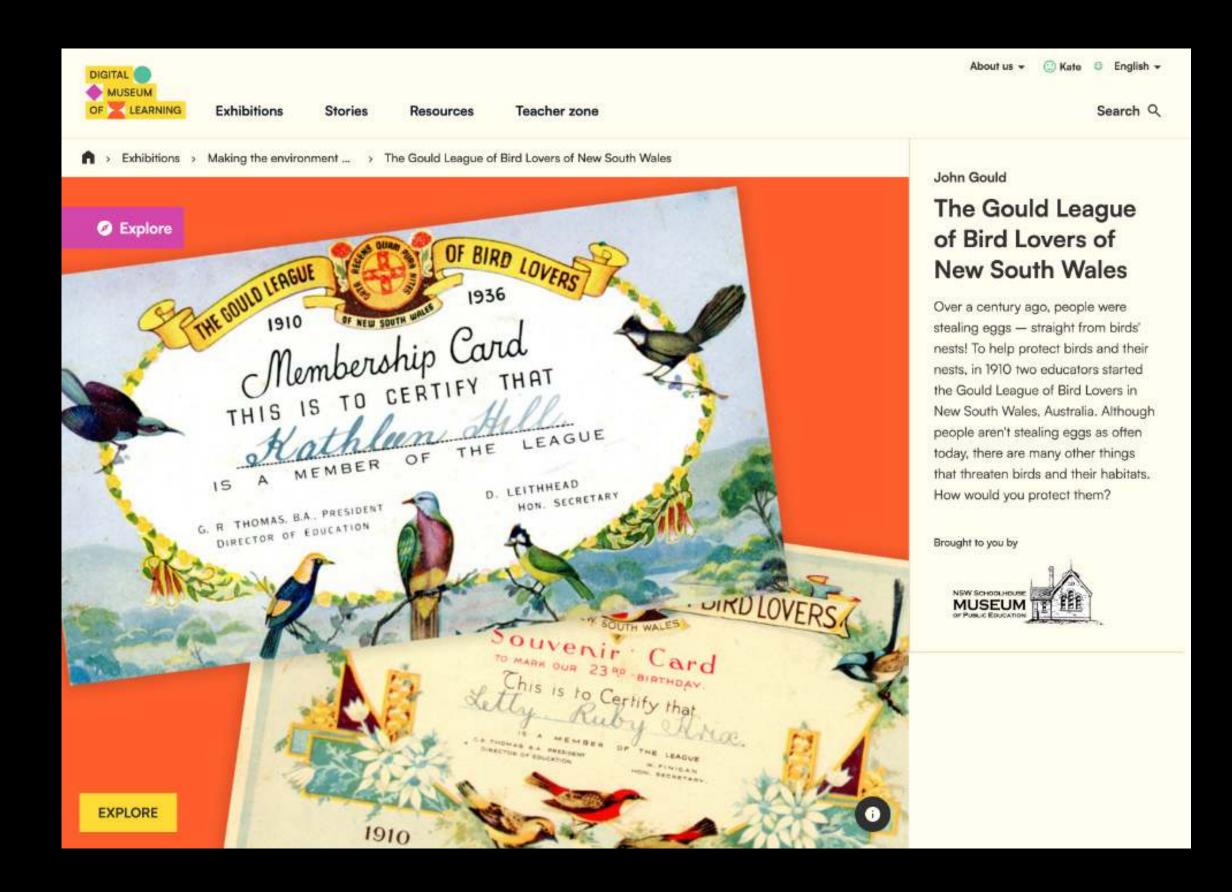
The project spanned naming and brand development, user



#### research, product strategy platform design and technical

#### development.





# **Our approach**

Our approach considered not only end users – the children and educators, but

the potential to scale as a global network of museums. We partnered with small local museums from around the world to source and curate physical artifacts and stories that could be 'digitized' and shared online.

Hence the platform would further expand its reach and act as a network of museums from launch.

The platform is in Beta with the full launch in September this year, yet the Digital Museum of Learning is already having an incredible impact on children and educators alike; helping bring the fun back to learning.



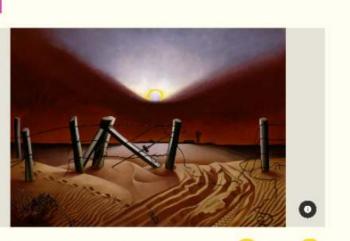




Dust Bowls and climate migration Discover the increciple power of documentary photos, like these from the Dust Bowl eral They capture limite c sasters that affect people's es. Meet the brave children of the Dust Bowl pictured in the photographic archives of the Farm Security Administration, What can you arn from them?

🔓 Explain

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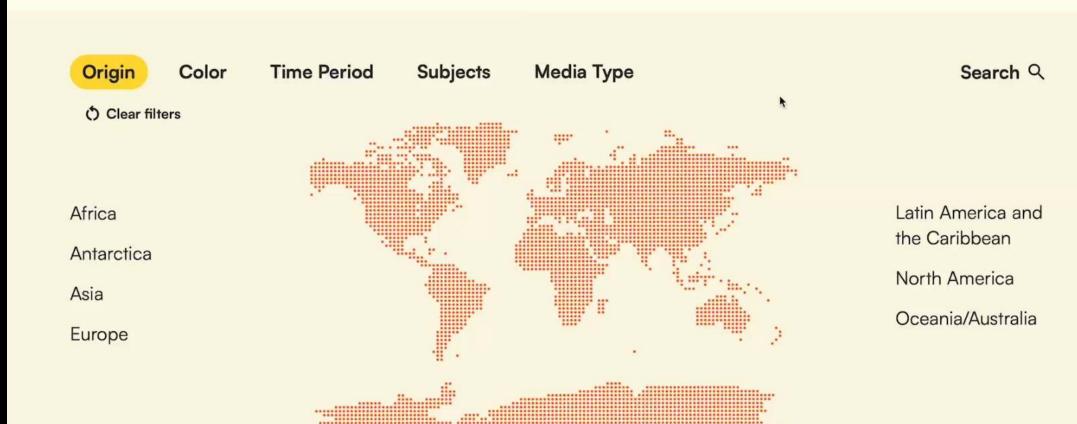


In the 1930s, the Great Plains were dry and dusty. Sandstorms were common On April 14th, 1934, one of the biggest storms in history caused great damage. That date was called Black Sunday because the sky was dark with dust in the middle of the day. The storm filled nomes with sand and left the land bare, so farmers could not grow food. Many families were forced to leave their homes in search of food, shelter, and new jobs.

A CLIMATE REFUGEE	How is climate change forcing people to leave their homes? Too many people living in cities Dry land and a lack of food Too much snow in the mountains
Want to know more?	

# **Explore Stories**

← 1/3 →



#### How we embraced innovation

Digital museum of Learning is innovative in how we are providing both inspirational exhibits and learning materials for free to teachers around the world.

The platform was designed to be multi-language and highly accessible, offering teachable learning journeys that are brought to life through interactive stories. The technology was developed on a content delivery network to ensure fast delivery to locations with slower internet access.

Themed on the history of learning DMoL provides immersive interactive content, 3D objects, and gamification through quizzes and polls.

#### E Explain

Vasculum, presses and hats!



A vasculum, or botanical box, was used to collect and safely Pressing flowers in a plant press or book was a popular It helped botanists study plant details - such as petal arrangement - that might otherwise shift during transport.

transport plants, seeds, and insects without damaging them. method. But doing so in extreme weather or dangerous conditions wasn't always easy. Many collectors used both vasculums and portable presses, and even pinned insects to their hats for transport!

> Most young people find botany a dull study. So it is, as taught from the textbooks in the schools; but study it yourself in the fields and woods, and you will find it a source of perennial delight.

John Burroughs (1837-1921), American naturalist and nature conservationist





← 1/9 →

Collecting plants can be exhausting. Plant collectors, sometimes called plant hunters, traveled all over the world to unfamiliar and sometimes dangerous places to collect rare and new plants. For themselves, for science, for botanical gardens, for companies or for private collections. Plant hunting often involved long journeys to dangerous places, hiking, mountain climbing, or trekking through dense jungles or forests to find rare or special plants.



### **Inclusive design**

The design approach focused on inclusivity, ensuring that the platform is accessible to both individuals with a younger reading age and those with impairments.

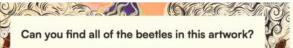
Our team developed a three-pillar design approach – Explore, Explain, Engage – allowing children to interact with the platform at their own pace and in their preferred way.

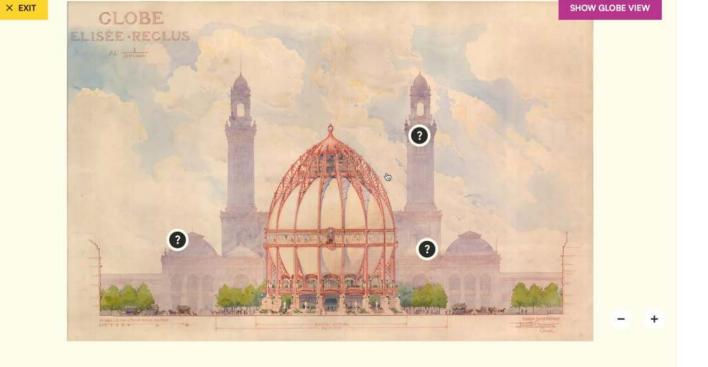
#### **Discover new stories**

The platform facilitates exploration by color, medium type, and time period, enabling children to pursue themes that interest them. To further enhance accessibility, audio translations are provided for all videos.

× EXIT

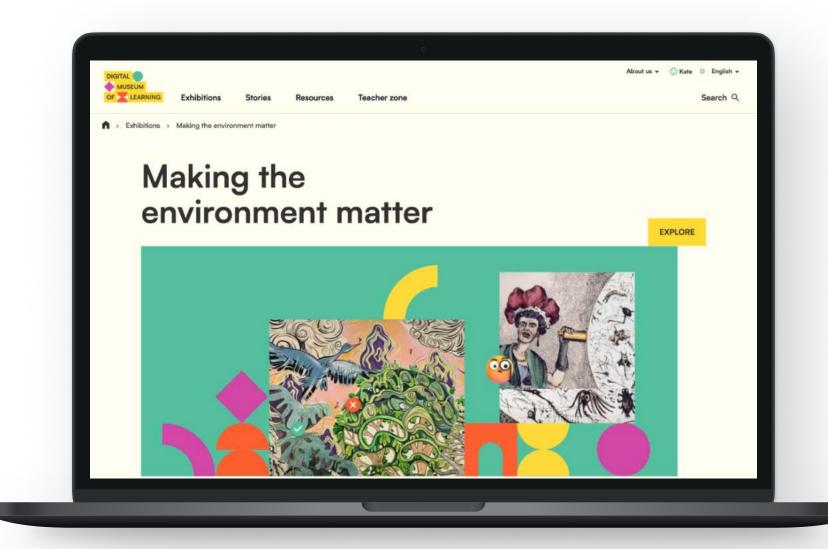
SHOW GLOBE VIEW

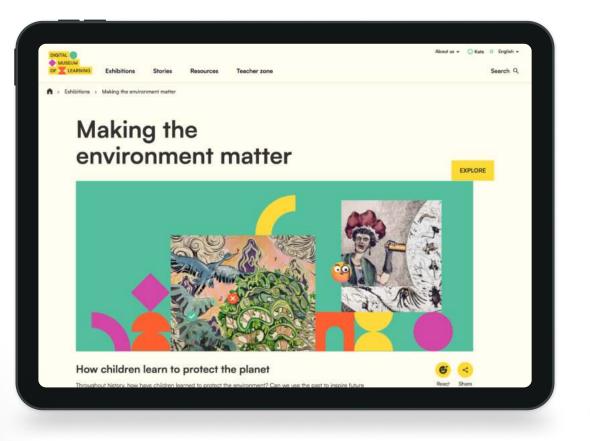


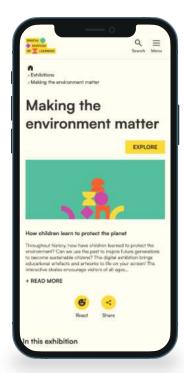












The design is fully responsive, meeting accessibility standards, and

#### accommodating users across devices and network limitations. The clean

design and clear signposting allows the content to take center stage without

overwhelming.the user.

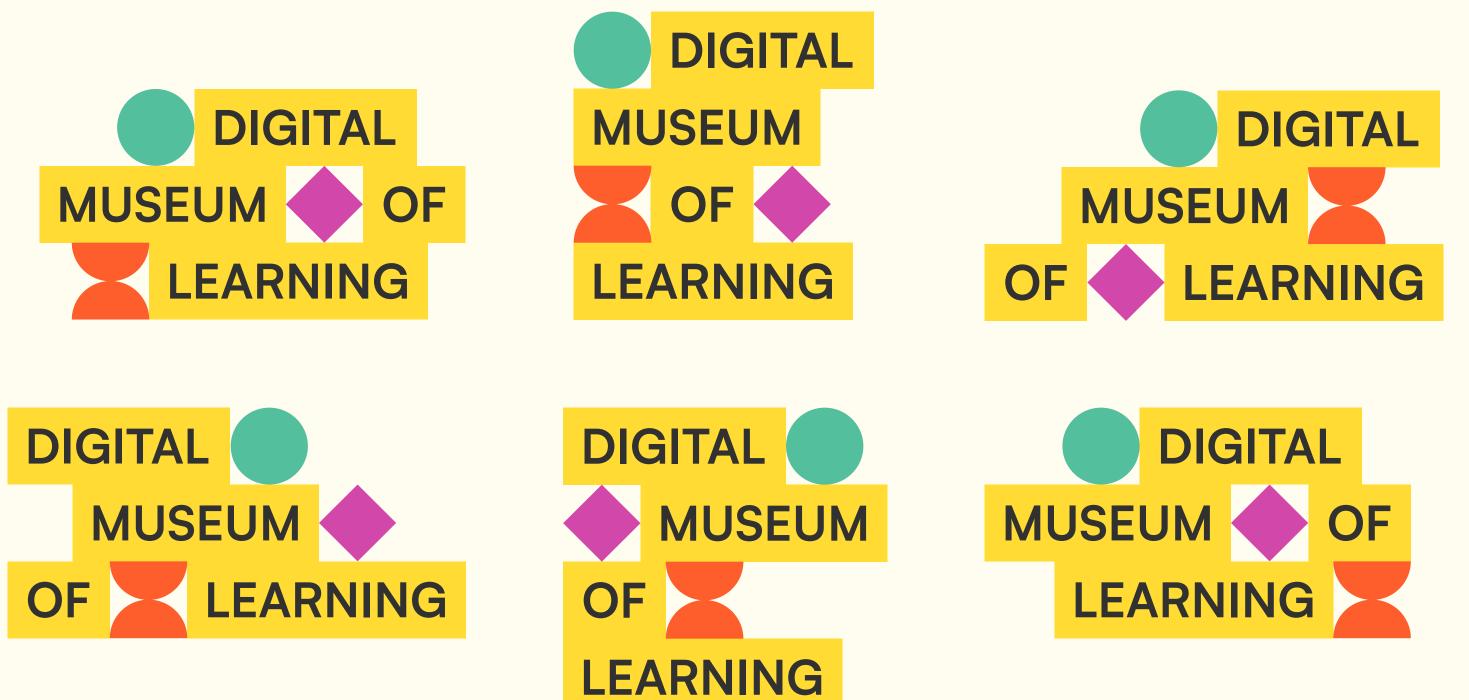
#### How we crafted the brand identity

The Digital Museum of Learning's brand identity was designed to reflect their values of imagination, openness and inspiration. The brand concept took the form of building blocks. Not only a nod to the iconic children's toy, but in recognition that knowledge is built over time, layers of understanding that rely on the stable foundation of bricks below them.

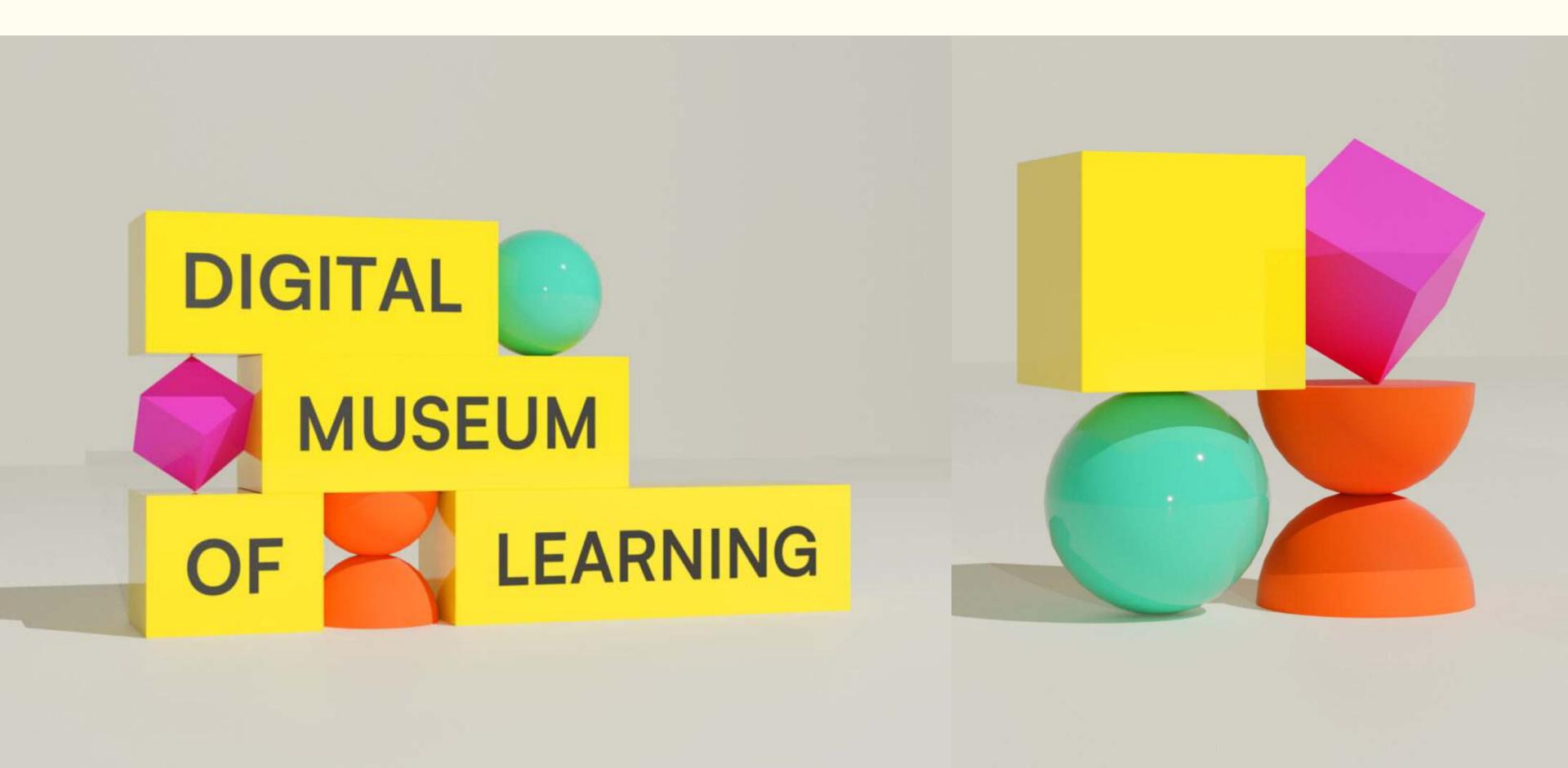
Modern digital-first brands have to work across media channels, so we created a flexible logo design system of interlocking bricks. This allows for playful adaptation across assets, media and partner environments, and was built with flexibility for future development opportunities.

We introduced a palette of bold primary colours, synonymous with childhood education, along side vibrant patterns that convey movement and playful interaction.











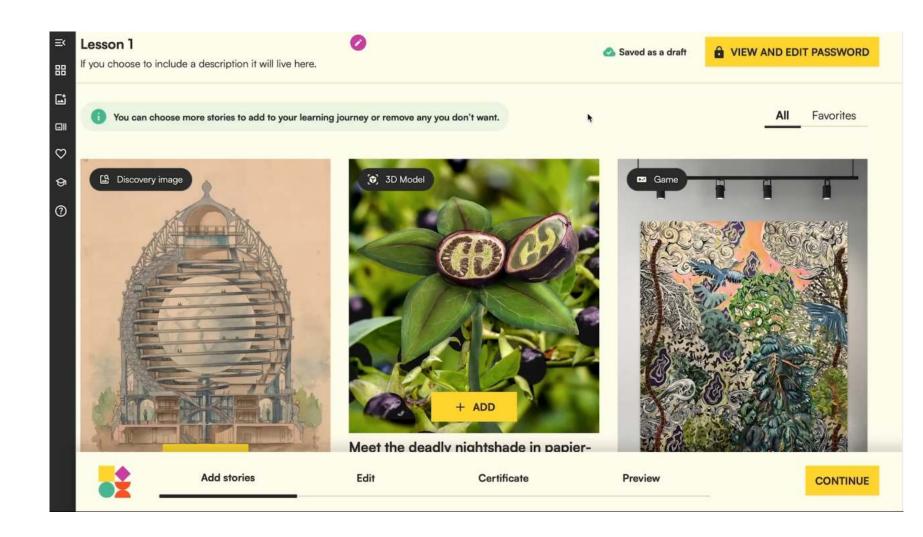
#### A digital first brand

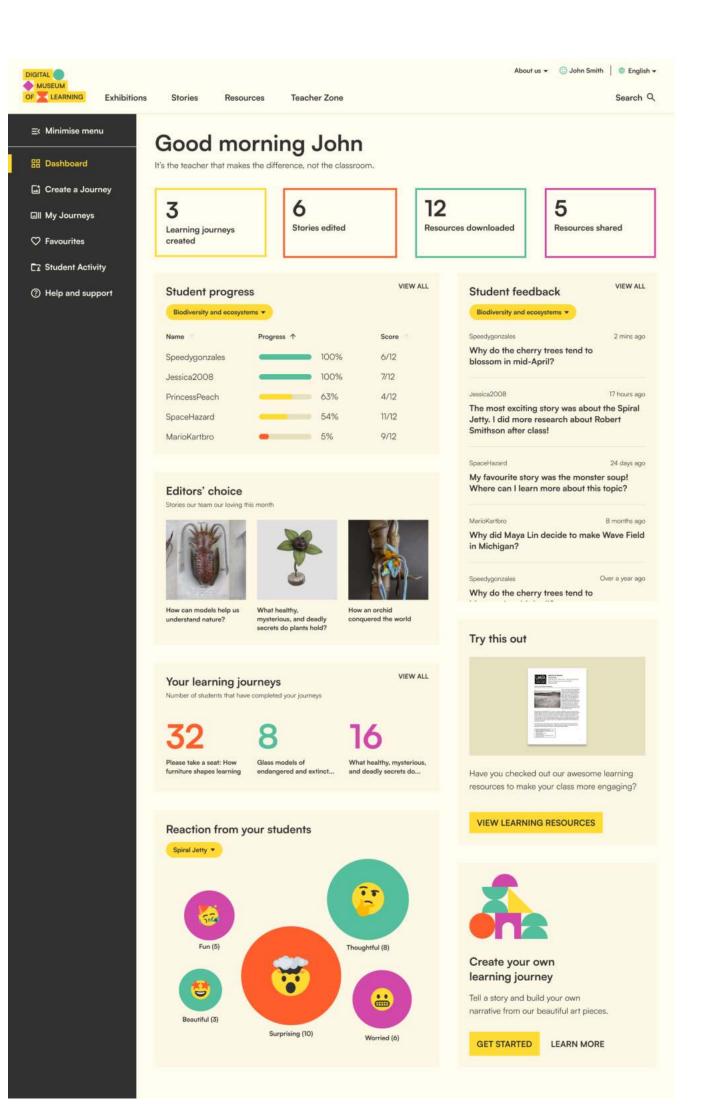
The website platform seamlessly integrates various content types, including text, images, audio, video, and interactive infographics.

The user-friendly content management system (CMS) enables easy creation, curation, and sharing of content by non-technical staff and partners.

We created a bespoke learning management system that allows teachers to create bespoke learning journeys based around classroom topics or themes.

In response to the client's emphasis on supporting educators, a comprehensive teachers zone enables educators to not only personalize the lessons, but also monitor student progress and gather valuable feedback on what content is most engaging.



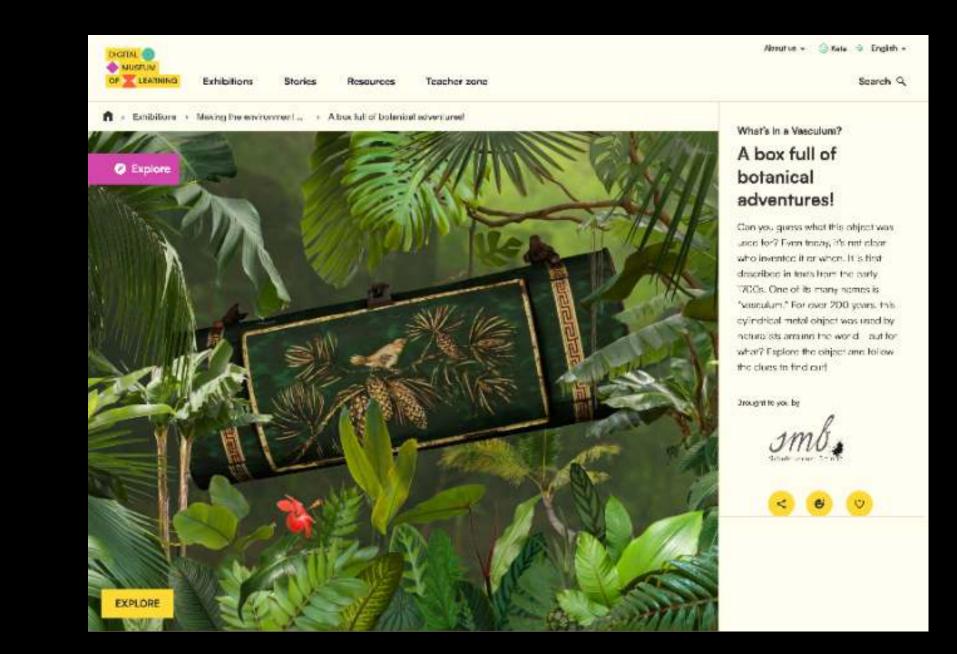


#### How we delivered impact

The impact of the Digital Museum of Learning lies in empowering educators and enabling every child to unlock their full learning potential.

By offering digital artifacts, evidence-informed knowledge, and inspiring teaching methodologies, DMoL supports educators in how they inspire children and their own professional development.

The platform provides learning activities designed for primary school children, incorporating cultural and artistic experiences beyond traditional museum settings. Committed to inclusivity, DMoL ensures accessibility for primary school teachers, parents, and museum staff, aiming to inspire educators, enhance learning outcomes, and reach every child.





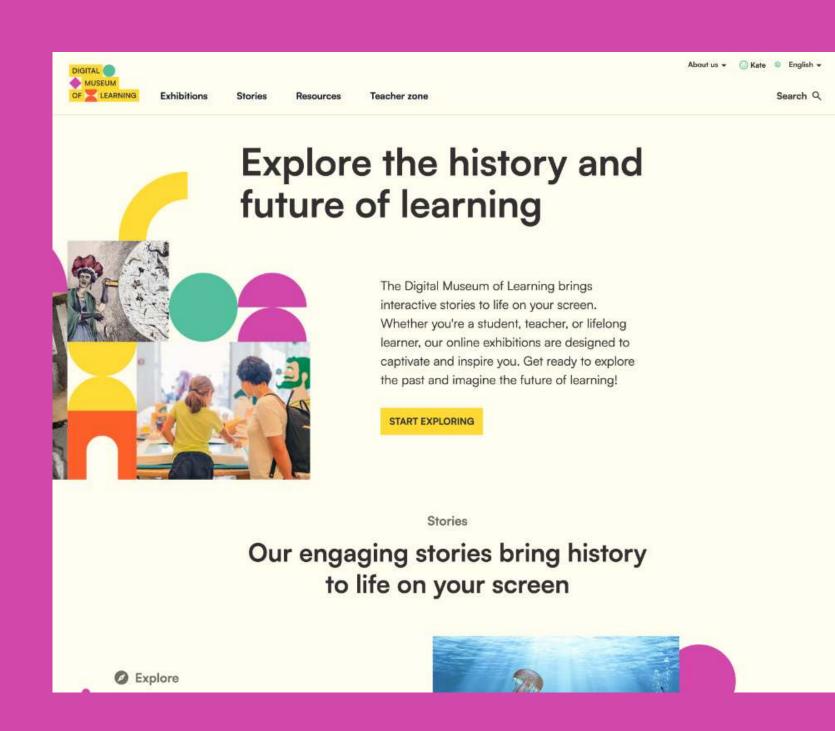
"I liked playing the games and learning about all the animals and plants. It was fun"

– Evelyn, Aged 6

"This is amazing! I can really see how this would interest the kids and help them to observe, understand, and express their thoughts and opinions."

– Charlotte Easdown, Teacher





#### How we're helping the planet

DMoL is dedicated to minimizing its environmental impact.

Operating as a virtual museum reduces both the need for physical infrastructure and carbon emissions associated with travel and construction.

The platform actively promotes environmental education and sustainable development through its exhibitions, instilling the idea of a more sustainable future in its young audience. Notably, the museum's inaugural exhibition centers around 'Making the environment matter.'

#### In summary

The Digital Museum of Learning, is a groundbreaking platform revolutionising the way educators and learners engage with knowledge.

With its innovative approach, meticulous craftsmanship, and significant impact on the education sector, DMoL has emerged as a global leader in interactive learning experiences. Its unwavering commitment to inclusivity, sustainability, and the empowerment of educators sets a new standard for digital educational platforms.

View the case study

www.weareathlon.com/work/bima-digital-museum-of-learning/

