



# Curiosity Cabinets

In-class activity or on a Family Day at MIA

## Introduction:

Sheikh Saoud bin Mohammed Al-Thani was passionate about curiosity cabinets and the combination between natural history and classical art in particular.

The exhibition recalls the curiosity cabinets tradition, which is encyclopedic collections of objects belonging to natural history, geology, ethnography, archaeology, religious or historical relics, works of art and antiquities. In fact, cabinets of curiosities were the pre-cursors of the museums. Sheikh Saoud can be considered one of the last princes who was willing to build his curiosity cabinet with a real passion and eye for arts and nature.

## Activity:

Students are often passionate about collecting different objects such as toys, cards, stamps, keychains, postcards or even specific objects related to characters. Allow students to create their own curiosity cabinets at school or at home and share their interests and collection through a short presentation in front of the class.

### Creating curiosity cabinets

Materials:

- Cardboard box/ Shoe box
- Colours
- Coloured paper
- Foam board
- Scissors
- Glue

Method:

1. Ask students to google curiosity cabinets to fully understand the concept
2. Students can use cardboard or shoe boxes
3. Decorate the box from the inside and outside
4. They can divide the inside to create shelves using cardboard or foam boards
5. Add their collection to the box