


SCIENCE MUSEUM

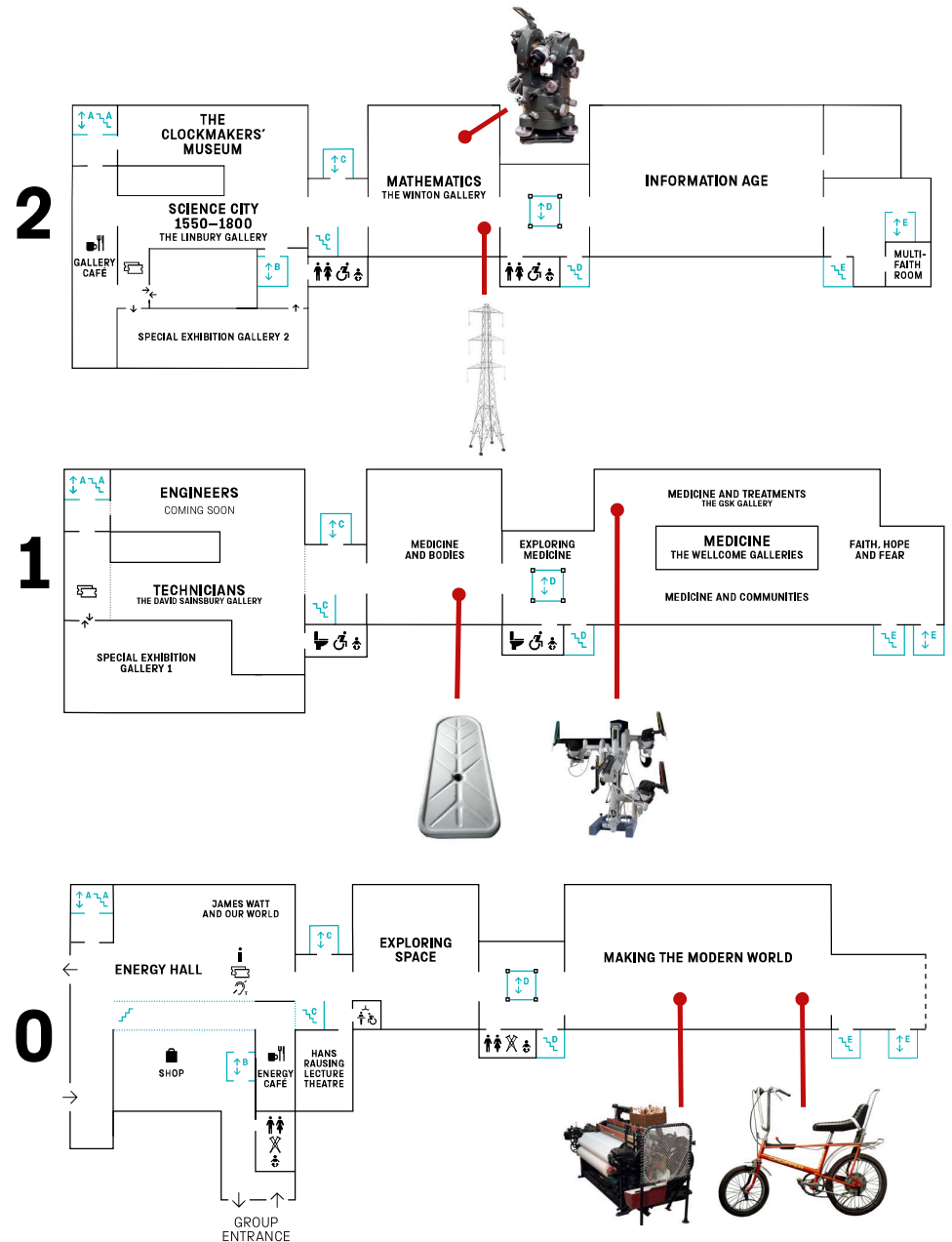


TECHNICIANS STORIES

EXPLORING 	Ages	11-14 14-16	Topic	CAREERS • SKILLS	🕒 40 MIN
	Skills used	OBSERVATION • DISCUSSION			

OBJECT TRAIL

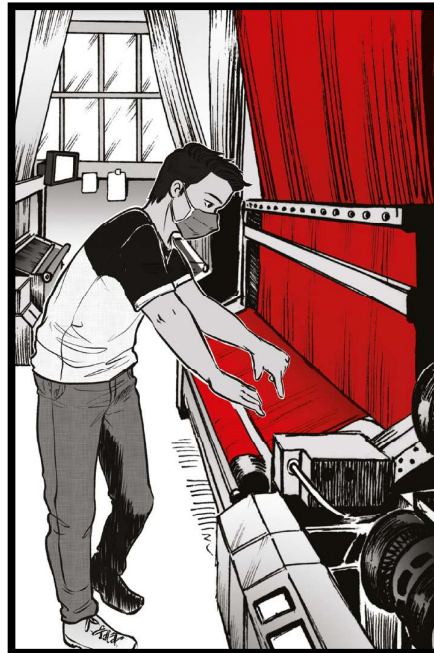
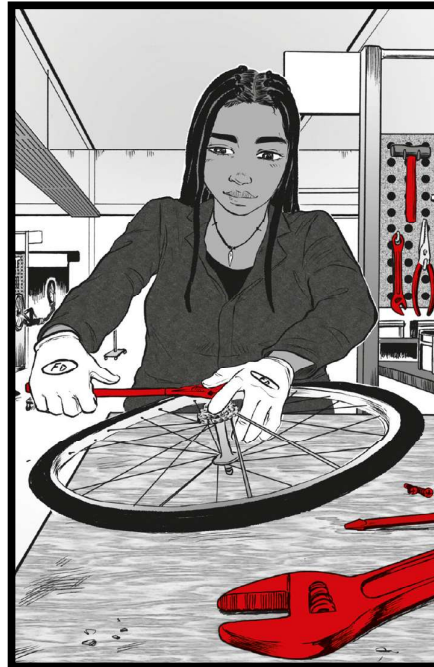
Map: location of objects



A technician is someone who applies practical knowledge and skills to positively impact our world. Technicians have fascinating and exciting careers, and play vital roles in many workplaces, in dozens of different industries. There are thousands of highly skilled technician roles that can be reached through practical courses and on-the-job training routes.

The technicians we feature in this trail use tools and equipment in their everyday work which you can find and explore throughout the museum.

See how many you can discover!



Bike Technician

Chopper



The Chopper, first made in 1968, was designed to look like an American Harley-Davidson motorbike. Like those of any machine, a bicycle's mechanical parts are subjected to stresses and can wear or even break. A Bike Technician uses **diagnostic** and **problem-solving** skills to maintain and repair bicycles, to keep them working safely. Bike Technicians work in a range of places, from local bike shops to touring with professional race teams, adjusting brakes and gears or installing new parts with high levels of **precision**.



Textile Technician

Automatic loom



Built in 1924, this was the world's first automatic loom. It made the mass production of textiles quicker and more efficient, so they became cheaper and easier to produce. Today, looms are larger and more complicated. Textile Technicians use their **measurement** skills and **attention to detail** to monitor and repair looms. They make sure the machines and equipment used in factories to produce textiles are operating correctly. This helps minimise interruptions in production and ensures that everyone can work safely.



Talk about...

Where do you think technicians have made a difference in your everyday life?

Which of these technician roles would be a good fit for your skills, interests and personality?

What kind of difference do you want to make in your future career?



Mortuary Technician

Postmortem table



A postmortem table is where bodies are laid out for examination by a pathologist after death. This ceramic postmortem table was used at Rotherhithe mortuary in London until 1944. Similar tables are still used today. The primary role of Mortuary Technicians is to assist the pathologist during postmortem examinations. They work with high levels of **precision** and **attention to detail** to prepare bodies, deliver tissue samples to the lab for analysis, and ensure instruments are cleaned before and after use.



Robotics Technician

Da Vinci machine



The Da Vinci Surgical System is a robotic device that makes it possible for surgeons to carry out complex operations with great accuracy and control, via tiny incisions. Robotics Technicians use **diagnostic** and **logical thinking** skills to build, service, maintain and repair robots and automated production systems. They apply an understanding of computers, electronic systems, sensor and feedback principles, and how robots work as machines.



How many of these skills are used by the technicians featured in this trail?

- ✓ Problem-solving
- ✓ Diagnostics
- ✓ Measurement
- ✓ Attention to detail
- ✓ Analysis
- ✓ Precision
- ✓ Teamwork
- ✓ Logical thinking



Find out more about the technician roles and the pathways that lead to them at Technicians.org.uk or scan the QR code

TITLE FUNDER



sciencemuseumgroup.org.uk/resources



Civil Engineering Technician

Theodolite



Theodolites are instruments used to measure horizontal and vertical angles to help technicians find precise locations. Civil Engineering Technicians are important as they give technical support to engineers on construction projects, ranging from building bridges to digging tunnels, to widening or building roads. They need to have high levels of **precision** and **logic** skills, and can specialise in areas of civil engineering such as design, planning or logistics.



Power Networks Technician

Pylon



Pylons support high-voltage overhead transmission cables which carry electricity all over the UK. Power Networks Technicians use a range of skills to help plan and maintain the network of pylons and their cables, as well as the electricity substations that take power from the cables and deliver it to homes, schools and businesses. They need strong **teamwork** skills, working alongside senior engineers and other specialists to get the job done.