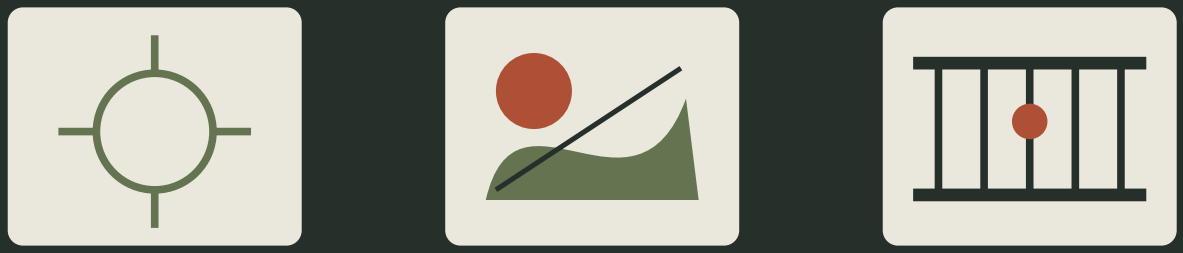
DISCOVERING DETAILS

A FAMILY JOURNEY INTO CRAFT AND ARCHITECTURE



A set of playful activities for children, parents and grandparents. No map needed — use a walk or photographs from the archive at sokolowsko.org.

For families with children aged roughly 7–13 • at home, at school or outdoors

The project is co-funded by the Minister of Culture and National Heritage.

sokolowsko.org

LET’S BEGIN!

How to use this activity pack

You do not need to know the history of every building to notice something interesting. Look closely, ask questions and write down what you can actually see.

FIVE RULES FOR CAREFUL EXPLORERS

01 Choose a photo at sokolowsko.org or look for details on a walk.

02 Read the activities together. Younger children can draw instead of writing.

03 Observe from a safe public place. Do not enter private properties or go beyond fences.

04 Do not touch, clean, remove fragments or collect samples.

05 If you do not know the maker or date, say “unknown” and look for reliable sources.

SOKOŁOWSKO HERITAGE ARCHIVE

The archive at sokolowsko.org contains photographs of objects and architectural details, object records, descriptions of techniques and information about their history and location. Compare your observations with the information found there.

THREE TECHNIQUES

Identify what you see. These are diagrams, not depictions of actual Sokołowsko heritage objects.



RELIEF

A raised or recessed pattern on a surface, such as a wall.

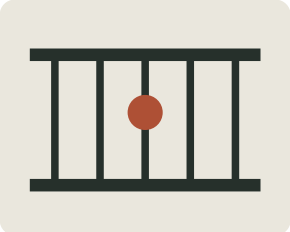
? Can you see shadows around the raised shapes?



MURAL

A painting made on a wall or other large surface.

? Is the design painted rather than carved?



ARTISTIC METALWORK

Decorative or practical objects made of metal.

? Can you see bars, joints or ornaments?

ACTIVITY 1 / MATCH THE PAIRS

Match each description to a technique. Write A, B or C.

A — relief

B — mural

C — artistic metalwork

1 A decorative metal grille is installed near an entrance. _____

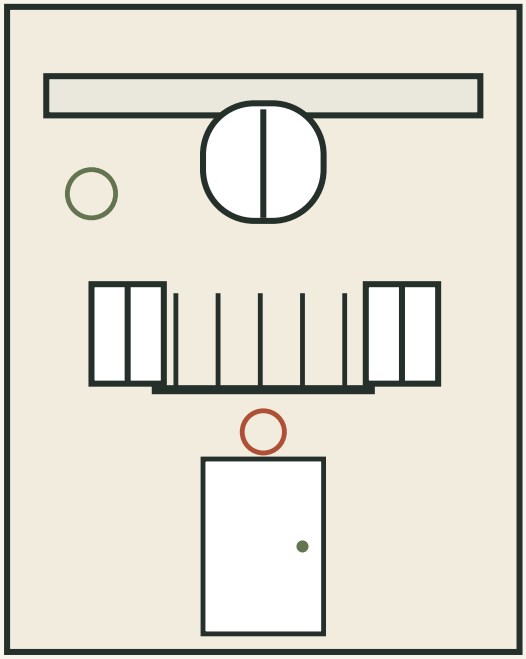
2 A colourful composition is painted on a building wall. _____

3 A decorative pattern projects from the plaster on a façade. _____

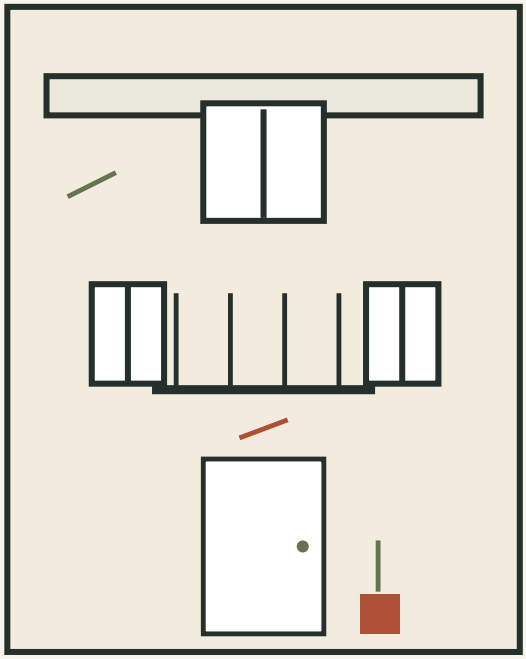
? Write your own example:

ACTIVITY 2 / SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

Compare the two illustrated façades and circle five differences. This is a creative exercise, not a photograph of a real building.



A



B

5 / 5

I found these differences:

ACTIVITY 3 / DETAIL DETECTIVE

Choose one detail from an archive photograph or your surroundings. Sketch it and write three things you are certain you can see.

MY SKETCH

Place or source of photograph:

Three visible features:

I think this element is used for:

What would I like to verify?

ACTIVITY 4 / OBSERVATION OR GUESS?

Write O = observation or H = hypothesis. Then make up one example of each.

1. There is a brownish deposit on the railing. **O / H**

2. A famous artist made the railing. **O / H**

3. There is a floral pattern on the wall. **O / H**

4. The decoration is exactly one hundred years old. **O / H**

My own observation:

My own hypothesis:

ACTIVITY 5 / FAMILY MINI-QUIZ

Choose one answer. The key is on the last page — no peeking!

1. What is a relief?

- ☐ A. A raised or recessed decoration
- ☐ B. Any poster on a wall
- ☐ C. A drawing in a notebook

2. What can a balustrade do?

- ☐ A. Decoration only
- ☐ B. Provide safety and decoration
- ☐ C. Be used only for painting

3. Which photographs best document a detail?

- ☐ A. Close-ups only
- ☐ B. Views of the entire town only
- ☐ C. Whole object, context and close-up

4. What should you do if the date of an object is unknown?

- ☐ A. Guess it
- ☐ B. Mark it as unknown and seek sources
- ☐ C. Use today’s date

5. What should you avoid when studying heritage details?

- ☐ A. Touching and cleaning them
- ☐ B. Taking notes
- ☐ C. Asking questions

6. Which statement is an observation?

- ☐ A. “Artist X made it”
- ☐ B. “The object dates from the 19th century”
- ☐ C. “I can see a crack in the plaster”

A SMALL PL/EN GLOSSARY

Words you may encounter along the way. Each term includes its Polish equivalent and a short explanation.

Detail Detal	A small feature forming part of a larger object or structure.
Façade Fasada	The outside face of a building, especially its front.
Relief Relief	A raised or recessed pattern on a surface.
Mural Mural	A painting on a wall or other large surface.
Artistic metalwork Metaloplastyka	The making of decorative or practical metal objects.
Balustrade Balustrada	A protective barrier by stairs, balconies or raised platforms.
Texture Faktura	The surface quality: smooth, rough or uneven.
Corrosion Korozja	The gradual deterioration of metal through environmental reactions.
Archive Archiwum	An organised collection of materials and information.
Documentation Dokumentacja	Photos, descriptions and records used to preserve knowledge of an object.

FOR ADULTS / ANSWERS AND IDEAS

Activity 1: 1–C, 2–B, 3–A.

Activity 2: examine the two drawings and find five changes.

Activity 4: O, H, O, H. Talking together matters more than answering quickly.

Mini-quiz: 1–A, 2–B, 3–C, 4–B, 5–A, 6–C.

FINAL FAMILY CONVERSATION

Finish by asking: “Which detail will you remember?”, “What did we actually observe?”, “What would we like to learn from the archive?”.

BONUS / TELL ME ABOUT A DETAIL

Ask an older family member about a building or object they remember from childhood. Record whose memory it is. Recollections are valuable testimonies, but factual details are worth checking.

More photographs, object records and information about Sokołowsko craft traditions: sokolowsko.org