



Use this activity sheet with the museum’s FREE app, WA State History Museum. Each virtual gallery tour in the app provides “stops” that feature exhibition highlights. Activity sheets have associated questions or actions for various stops on the app tours.

How to get the app:

For Android and Windows devices, use the web-based application at this link:
<https://web-app.cuseum.com/?Washington-state-history-museum>

For iPhones, go to the Apple App Store, type in “WA State History Museum.” Click “open” and you’ll be prompted to download the app to your phone.

THE NOT-SO-ORDINARY

(Bicycle)



Stop #1 Riding The Ordinary

When cycling first became a sport in 1868, bicycles were sized to the length of a user’s leg. Find a ruler or measuring tape and measure your leg to see how long it is in inches. What size bicycle, or how many inches tall, would you need?



Based on the information you see here, why were these bicycles called “penny farthings”?



What do you think these bicycles might have been called if they were invented in the United States?



Stop #2

Ordinary Bicycles



When it first became available, this bicycle cost about \$140.00 to purchase. In that same era, most people only made \$2.47 a day. Using a pencil and paper, a calculator, or finding a person to help you, figure out how many days a person would have needed to work to be able to buy this bicycle.

Answer: _____

Stop #4

Cycling Clubs

Cycling clubs created paths, trails, and bridges to make bicycling safer. List two things that you can do to be safe while riding a bicycle. (You can use the internet or talk to a family member or a friend for help.)



1) _____

2) _____

Stop #6

A Cup for Cycling

What makes this cup different from a coffee cup? _____

Why would it be useful to someone riding a bike? _____

BONUS! Invent your own object for a cyclist to use. Will it be for fun?
Safety? Decoration?

Stop #7

Women and Early Cycling

How did women's clothing change because of the invention of the bicycle?



BONUS! Design a vehicle that you think people will use one hundred years from now. Think about how differently we might live by then, and let that inspire your design.

Vocabulary

Ordinary bicycle: An early bicycle with a very big front wheel and a very small back wheel.

Cyclist: A person who rides a bicycle.

Patent: A government license that gives an inventor the exclusive right to their invention for a period of time. A patent stops other people from copying or reproducing their invention.