Chaperone Tips for the Peabody Museum Mysteries Kit

The Museum Mysteries Kit is a briefcase-sized box with seven artifacts to touch and talk about, all linked to the North American Indian exhibits. Your school has reserved the kit to use during the self-guiding portion of your field trip. You don’t have to know anything to use it—just read the directions on the card out loud, one at a time, and have fun along with your kids. The kids will will pass objects around, stand up to search for objects in cases, and return to their spots for the next activity.

One adult should be responsible for distributing the cards and objects equally across the groups playing with the kit. This adult will also collect the objects and return the kit to the front desk at the end of the visit. Chaperones can swap cards and artifacts so that groups get a chance with a few different activities.

Groups can spread out in rooms to the left side of the room with the totem poles. Directions are on the front of the box.

When sitting in the galleries, Chaperones are in control. Remind kids to...
1. **Share artifacts.** “Pass it to your friend when you are done.” “Take a quick look and pass it on.”
2. **Be gentle with artifacts.** “One at a time.” “Pass it gently, return it to me.”
3. **Keep voices down.** “Please use indoor voices.” “Please speak more quietly so we don’t disturb the other visitors.” “Thanks for speaking in a quiet voice.”
4. **Walk.** “Walk when you are looking for things.” “No running indoors please.”
5. **Return to their spot.** “Let’s sit down again and see what’s next.”

If something breaks, please let the front desk know so the museum can replace it. You will not be charged.

The artifacts are from the northeast, subarctic, and southeast regions of North America.

Shhhhh, don’t tell, but the artifacts are as follows….
1. Quills from an eastern porcupine
2. A necklace made with porcupine quills
3. A hand tool for working hide made from a clam shell with a bone handle
4. A wooden design paddle for use with clay
5. Stone arrowheads
6. Birch bark
7. A working pump drill