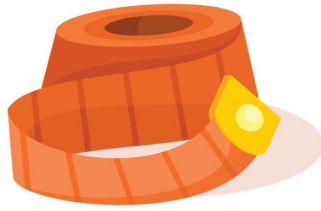


The Mystery of the Gold Torc

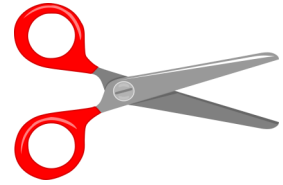
What you will need:



Measuring tape



A piece of string or ribbon



Scissors



This is the East Cambridgeshire gold torc it is Ely Museum's most prized object. It's from the Bronze Age and is around 3000 years old. It measures 126cm and weighs 730g of almost pure gold! It is one of the largest torcs ever found in Britain

Can you solve the mystery?

Nobody knows how the torc was used. Torcs were often worn as jewellery but this one is so big it would be difficult to wear even for a large adult. The torc is almost pure gold meaning it is somewhat flexible and could be bent into different shapes.

Using a measuring tape, measure and cut a piece of string the same length as the torc (126cm) and have a go at being an investigator. Can you make a guess at how the torc was used? Remember the torc was flexible and could wrap around something or someone more than once.

Here are some questions to help you start thinking like a historian.

Does the torc work as a belt?

How many times does the torc wrap around your arm?

Would the torc fit around an animal?

Do you think you would have to be important to own the torc?

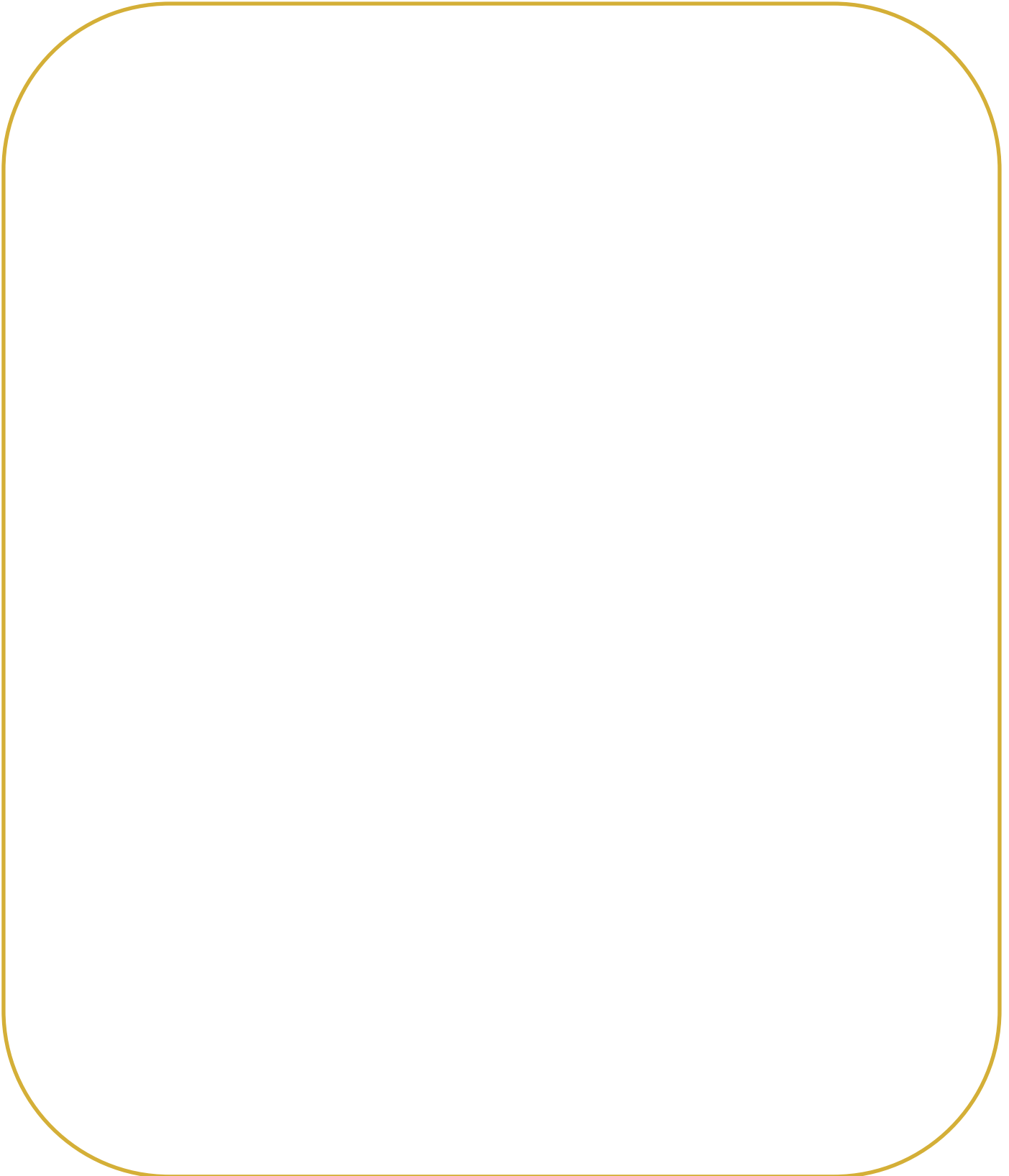
Is the torc as tall as you are?

What other ideas can you think of?

The Mystery of the Gold Torc

What ideas did you come up with? How do you think the torc was used?

Draw a picture of how you think the torc was used below.



Why not share your drawing with us on Facebook or Twitter