



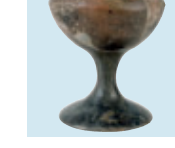
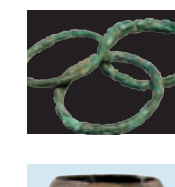




look explore discover play

society  
millares

The **society of Los Millares** existed about 5000 years ago. They were the ones who discovered copper, the first metal used by man. Close to the capital city of Almería, there was once a town that grew to become one of the most highly developed places in the world. It was walled and surrounded by forts, which were buildings used to defend the town. The houses were round cabins. In the town, they milled grain and stored cereals essential for survival. The young people learned to carve arrowheads from flint and copper. Burials were a group affair and always took place in the outskirts of the village.

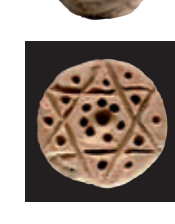


Around 2250 B.C. during the Bronze Era, we know of the existence of another culture that came after the Millares called the **Argaric Society**. Its inhabitants lived in towns located in valleys, where the most powerful citizens lived in higher areas dominating the rest. They ate mainly grains, barley in particular, harvested by slaves and ground for hours and hours. Their tombs were individual and located inside people's dwellings, with different shapes and burial offerings according to the power and wealth of the deceased.

society  
argaric

society  
roman

In the year 209 B.C., the Romans conquered our peninsula. For centuries Hispania would be a province of Rome, making Almería an important point of commercial exchange for **Roman society**, due to the exploitation of marble quarries, iron, copper and silver mines, and also for fishing and salt fish production. We do not know if there was a great city, but in the rural and coastal areas there were villas, such as Chirivel and Villaricos, decorated with paintings, sculptures and beautiful mosaics.



Islamic Almería began in the 9th century when a group of sailors coming from northern Africa landed on our coast. The city was established in what is today known as the town of Pechina and a century later, the Caliph of Córdoba, Aberrámán III, founded the city by the name of Al-Mariyya on its current site. He built the palace (alcázar), the mosque and the wall that surrounds the city. **Islamic society** reached the peak of its splendour in this period dedicated to the production and trade of luxury products, such as silk, glazed ceramics and glass.

society  
islamic

What's there to discover...

in the Museum of Almería?

8. And in a thousand years... What?

So we've arrived at the top of our stratigraphic column! Now we're on top of everything, but in a thousand years... the archaeologists of the future will find the remains of our society in there! For now...

Can you find the names of the four societies we've investigated in this word search?

EL ROMAN  
IESAUDCV  
USIGIITS  
EALRRJA  
SERALLIM  
HLGRMMAN  
ROXAIAP  
AISTWOC

And which of these new pieces belongs to each one?

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

7. Treasures of Islam

Numerous Islamic objects like these have been found in what remains of the ancient city of Al-Mariyya. Look closely at the display cases around you and see if you recognise the names of these items and tell me:

Which is the correct name for each?

stamp  
toy  
bas relief  
oil lamp  
jug with handles  
coins  
inscription on marble

And which of them has accidentally slipped in and is not Islamic?

6. What a Feast Day!

What a disaster on the day of the banquet honouring the god, Bacchus! His statue is in pieces and the amphorae for salt fish, oil and wine arrived all mixed up and without their name cards.

Of these eight pieces, only six belong to the statue of Bacchus. Can you tell which ones they are?

Can you match up these three labels correctly with the contents of each of the amphorae?

oil  
fish-salting  
wine



What do you think this <b>INSCRIPTIONS</b> say?	I light with <b>OIL</b>	I am a decorated <b>VESSEL</b>	We have great <b>AIM!</b>	I am a total <b>GOD</b>	They use me for <b>COOKING</b>	If you're <b>THIRSTY...</b>
		I will leave you nicely <b>COMBED</b>	Archaology in Play	We are <b>IDOLS</b> with eyes	<b>SIX</b> points for the star	
I'm made with small <b>PIECES</b>	I carry two big <b>HANDLES</b>	I form part of a <b>LOOM</b>	I'm good for <b>STORAGE</b>	We are <b>Roman</b> <b>LAMPS</b>	A very seaworthy <b>NECKLACE</b>	

**Solutions to games:** GAME 1: items 2; 3; 4; 5; 7; 10; 11 and 12 are the eight essential ones. GAME 2: 1= (baked mud/ storing grain); 2= (wood and stone/ working the fields); 3= (baked mud/ making cloth); 4= (baked mud/ preparing foods); 5= (flint/ hunting and defence); 6= (stone/ grinding). GAME 3: shell necklace; paired vessel; eyes/suns bowl; wooden comb; eyed idol. GAME 4: 1/B; 2/E; 3/A; 4/C; 5/D; 6/F; 7/H. GAME 5: A= pithos, gold bracelet, axe, wine glass; B= cist, dagger, bronze bracelet, bowl. GAME 6: The six pieces of the statue of Bacchus are numbers 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 and 8. Amphora A= wine, B= oil y C= fish-salting. GAME 7: 1= jug with handles, 2= inscription on marble; 3= coins; 4= toy; 5= bas relief; 6= oil lamp; 7= stamp. The coins are not Islamic, they are Roman. GAME 8: the names of the four societies are: MILLARES= piece 8; ARGARIC= piece 9; ROMAN= piece 6; ISLAMIC= piece 1.

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