



THE 1940S HOUSE SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES

Key Stage One

Toys

Use the images of wartime toys, to discuss what wartime toys were made from and how they worked. Compare these with your favourite toy from home, what are the similarities and differences? Watch 'The Boys Bedroom' film to find out what the boys who lived in the 1940s house liked to play with.

The Kitchen

Brainstorm what items and equipment you have in your kitchen at home. Watch 'The Kitchen' film, identify which items are the same and which are different?

Key Stage Two

Evacuation

Use 'The Boys' Bedroom' film, drawing by Ethel Gabain and sound clip as a starting point to research individual experience, and investigate the question 'Were all children evacuated'?

Food Rationing

Use 'The Dining Room' and 'The Kitchen' films, and the painting 'A Queue for the fish shop' to investigate the question 'What foods were rationed'? Listen to Joyce and Lily to identify how people coped .

Key Stage Three

Propaganda

Students can work in groups with posters on the four themes of food rationing, clothes rationing, fuel rationing and furniture rationing. Looking at a selection of propaganda posters and the image of The Squander Bug, what techniques did the government use to persuade people to adhere to food, clothes, fuel and furniture rationing? Listen to Joyce (food and food), Lily (materials and food), Pamela (fuel) and Pauline (furniture). Compare their families responses to rationing with the Official War Art 'The queue at the fish shop'.

Key Stage Four

Women on the Home Front

Students can work in groups to select one image (photograph/art), one sound clip and one film clip to create an exhibition on the theme Women on the Home Front. Having explored the material and made their selections, ask students to identify what ideas are missing from the material, and what they would need to include to give a more comprehensive picture of women's experiences in wartime Britain.