

Homes: Then and Now

Aim

To use objects to develop concepts of age, to develop the idea of the past, and to suggest that life in the past was different in some ways from life today

Preparation

Work on families and generations, including talking to older people, in order to focus on ideas of age and the past

Programme

It is helpful to have a good area of clear floorspace with room to sit the class in a semicircle and to lay out objects.

The session begins with a story, which introduces simple concepts of the past within and beyond living memory. The story leads to a trunk full of old household objects, which are investigated and identified one by one. The objects relate to themes like cooking, washing, cleaning and lighting, and the children look for similarities and differences between these objects and those used for the same purposes today. They also identify materials and look for signs of age and wear. At the same time, there may be opportunities to develop relevant vocabulary and practise spoken language.

Follow-up

Borrow household objects from the loan service and display them with modern equivalents. The loan catalogue is available on www.carisbrookecastlemuseum.org.uk.



Museum Education Service



