

Air Raid Shelter Collection (WW2-ASPP)

This collection contains a variety of iconic WW2 artefacts. These detailed replicas will support and enhance your learning about the experiences of the war.

Contents: -

1. 1 x Hurricane lamp
2. 1 x Warning Rattle
3. 1 x Billy Can
4. 2 x Tins of Non-Perishable Food
5. 1 x Sound effects CD
6. 1 x Set of Personal Documentation
7. 1 x Set of newspapers
(Contents may vary)



Questions you could ask children about the artefacts

Initial Discussion

- What is this object?
- Does it resemble anything the children have seen?
- What do you think the item was used for and by whom?
- Does anyone know what it is called?

Collect any other questions the children might have about the artefacts and display them as you try to find the answers through your learning sessions.

Other questions to consider:

- What was life like in WW2?
- Why is it important to learn about the war?
- How does this object connect to the people involved in WW2?
- **What do the objects tell us about life in the wartime?** *This last question can be returned to at the end of the investigation.*

By asking these questions, you can encourage pupils to actively engage with the artefacts, explore their significance and develop a deeper understanding of WW2 and experiences.

All About the Artefacts

1. Hurricane Lamp

Used in air raid shelters or in the home when the electricity was not working. Helps pupils understand about blackouts and air raid precautions.

Create shelters and look at artefacts related to air raid shelters and the importance of blackout conditions to stay safe during air raids.

2. Warning Rattle

Used by air raid wardens. Wardens were issued with the rattle to warn about gas attacks or air raids.

Role-play air raid wardens and listen to and create the sounds and warning alarms from WW2.

3. Billy Can

A small portable metal pot or container commonly used during the war. Soldiers used them for hot drinks to stay warm and hydrated during their duties. Made of metal they could be easily heated over a fire or stove and were used for boiling water for making tea or coffee.

Create a Home Front scene and share stories of WW2.

4. Tins of Non-Perishable Food

Tins of food such as spam were very common but also foods such as powdered eggs. During the war many foods were rationed, meaning people only got a certain amount each week. Fresh eggs were one of these rationed items. Powdered eggs had a long shelf life, and one tin was equal to twelve fresh eggs. You could add water to the egg powder to make them into a liquid and then use this in your cooking. While you got the nutrition from the powdered eggs, they weren't always the tastiest.

Find out about war time food and have a go at following some war time recipes from oaty biscuits, carrot cookies to cauliflower pie.

5. Sound Effects

An authentic recording of sounds such as air raid sirens, sounding the warning of bombing and to give the all clear, sound of fire engines racing through the streets during the Blitz, noises of RAF Spitfires, Lancaster Bombers, sirens and gunfire.

Use sound effects for role-play or to inspire writing. Use instruments to create own sound effects from the war.

6. Personal Documentation

Could include ration books, record of evacuation or service, letters, diaries, photographs and recounts of experiences during the war. Everyone carried Identity cards, and they were necessary for using on public transport and giving access to certain places.

These can offer a first-hand perspective of the war. Use the documents to understand emotions, experiences and perspectives.

7. News Battle of Britain

Newspaper headlines and articles giving an overview of the events that led to Britain declaring war on Germany in 1939. Includes how propaganda was used to persuade people to join the war effort and the importance of motivational campaigns. News reports covering some of the main events help us to develop knowledge about what happened.

Design a newspaper front page including headlines, images and factual reports. Create your own WW2 class newspaper showing what you have learnt and a preview of what is to come each week.

Reference Websites:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/articles/zjnyscw>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/school-radio/articles/zjc8cqt>