



# Homes in the Past

## Today we will be...

Looking at and exploring different objects found in a Victorian home.







How many of the things in this kitchen use electricity?

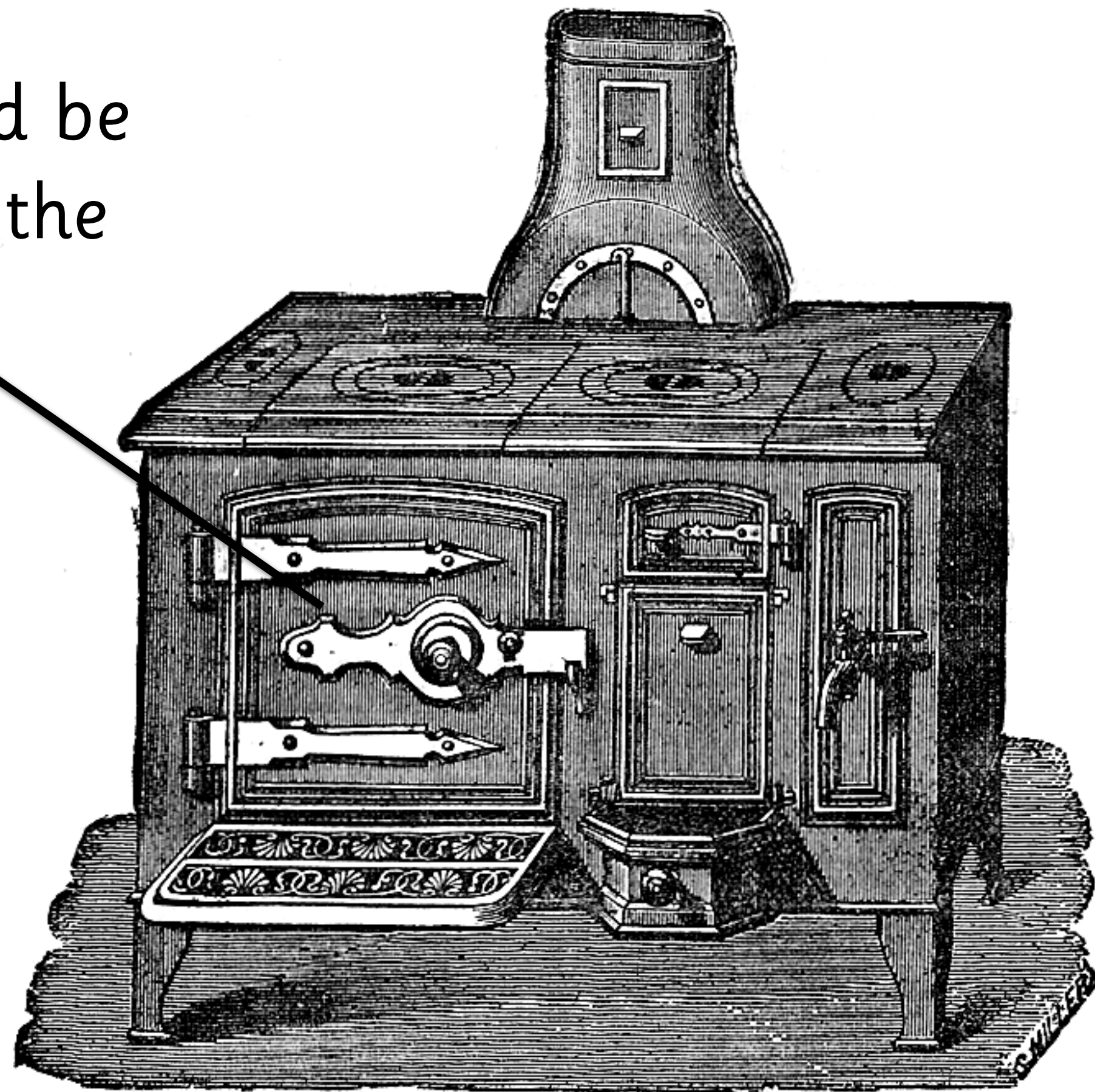
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In a Victorian kitchen there wouldn't have been any of the appliances that need to be plugged in because there was no electricity. There were no washing machines, tumble driers, microwaves, electric kettles or electric irons in Victorian kitchens.

This door would be opened to put the coal in.



All the cooking was done on a stove or range like this. It had to be stoked with coal so that the fire was always lit. Pans and kettles were then placed on top to cook food or boil water.







mangle

washboard

Laundry was difficult in Victorian times as it was all done by hand. This woman is scrubbing the washing against a **washboard**. She will then wring it out and put it through a **mangle** to get the water out. Doing the laundry usually took a whole day.







Doing the ironing wasn't easy either. Irons were big chunks of iron with handles which were warmed on the stove. They were very heavy. Some people had special iron stoves like this that had lots of irons on so when one got too cool they could take another hot one.







Victorians didn't have fridges or freezers either. They had cupboards called larders or rooms called pantries that were specially designed to keep food as cool as possible so it wouldn't go off.

Foods like breads, pies, cakes and biscuits were made at home and then eaten as soon as they were made. Meat was bought fresh, ready to prepare and cook when it was needed. Fruits and vegetables were also picked from the garden.







This is a modern living room. What can you spot that wouldn't be in Victorian living room?







Objects like TVs, computers and games consoles hadn't been invented in Victorian times. They did very different things to us when they were relaxing at home. If they wanted to have music, someone would play a piano or other musical instrument. They read books or played games like chess. Girls often did sewing or embroidery.

Have a look at the picture of a Victorian family in their living room. What are they doing? How many activities can you spot?





