

Homes Now and Then (OBJECT CARDS - SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES)

Provide your child with the Object Cards which have a variety of Victorian objects, e.g. water pump, gas lamp, dolly, writing desk, etc.

Children to read the description (with adult support if needed) of each object and then see if they can spot each one in the pictures.

Object Card Snap - Print two sets of the Object Cards. Play with a partner, each taking turns to place a card down on the pile. When a matching pair is made player to shout 'SNAP'. Player takes that pair of cards, reads the description of the object and locates in the image of the Victorian kitchen or living room.

Object Memory Game - Print two sets of the Object Cards. Lay all cards face down on the carpet or table. Players take turns, turning over two cards. If a matching pair is made the player keeps the cards.

Range

All the cooking was done on a range. It used coal to make a fire inside that was always lit.

Dolly

A dolly was used to move the laundry around in the boiling water of the washing tub.

Water pump

Victorians didn't have taps. Instead they used a water pump. To get water to come out, you had to pump the handle up and down.

Gas Lamps

Victorians did not have electric lights. They used gas lamps. Some were fixed to the wall, others could be moved.

Writing Desk

Most homes had a writing desk that people could sit at to write letters. Letters were the only way of getting in touch with people as they had no phones or emails.

**Iron**

Victorian irons were just big, heavy blocks of iron that were heated on the range and then pressed onto clothes.

Washboard

Washboards had raised lines on them.

They were used to scrub the laundry when it was in soapy water.

**Copper kettle**

Copper kettles were placed on the range. The metal would then heat which would heat the water inside.

Bellows

Bellows are used to blow air into the fire. This makes the fire burn better.

Coal scuttle

Victorian homes all had fireplaces that needed coal to keep them going. A coal scuttle is a container that keeps the coal next to the fire.

**Quill and ink**

Quills are feathers that are made into a pointed tip at the end. Victorians dipped quills in ink to write with.

Mantle clock

Mantle clocks were kept on mantelpieces or shelves for telling the time. They had to be wound up to work.