

Old Washing

For: Reception and KS1

Time: Approx 2 hours.

This session can also be offered in school or combined with a 'Houses and Homes' visit to the museum. Please ask for details.

Every child is able to use the equipment needed to wash clothes in the late 19th and early 20th century. They can compare this to washing now and 'experience' doing the washing.

1. Introduction and discussion about washing clothes now and in the past.
2. The whole class looks at a demonstration of how to use the washing equipment, water, tub, stick, washboard, dolly, tongs and mangle.
3. The class is given a sheet on which to draw all the equipment needed to wash clothes. (Variation for Reception classes)
4. In small groups the children come up to the wash tub and use all the equipment, including soap and water to wash a piece of cloth and talk about what they are doing.
5. Part of the class goes into the galleries to find washing equipment throughout the museum while the other handles various other cleaning related objects, ie carpet beater, Hoover. The groups swap over.

For more information please contact the Museum of Harlow

☎ 01279 454959

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