

Workshop: The Home Front on the High Street

For up to 30 children

2 hours

Learning Objectives:

- To learn about World War Two through the story of M&S
- To understand the nature and purpose of an archive
- To use primary sources to answer questions and explore ideas – historical enquiry
- To find out about what life was like during the war for people in the UK
- To have fun

Pupils will use artefacts, replica artefacts, the exhibition and selected archive material to find information and complete tasks.

Activity	Content
Welcome	Meet and greet Coats and bags
Introduction	What we are going to do Housekeeping <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fire procedure• Toilets• Exhibition Space
What is M&S? What is an archive?	What is M&S? M&S Timeline activity What is an archive?
Activity A - Mystery Objects – what are they?	Working in groups, pupils discover what M&S did during the war by identifying objects from the period.
Exhibition	Pupils look around exhibition to find out more.
Activity B - Photographic Evidence	What's happening in the pictures? Pupils analyse a wartime photo and then devise a sketch to act out what they think happened next/before.
Activity C – Utility Clothing and Rationing	Pupils look at 1940s clothing and adverts, and then decide what to spend their clothing coupons on.
Plenary	What is the most interesting thing you have learned? Did you have fun?