



## **Make Do and Mend**

### **Workshop**

### **Information for Teachers**

#### **Introduction**

'Make Do and Mend' is a workshop session at the Quilt Museum & Gallery designed for Key Stage 2 pupils.

Through handling and examining real objects, pupils will be encouraged to investigate a time in British history when families just like theirs struggled with rationing and had to manage with what they already had. Interactive challenges and craft activities will take pupils on a creative learning journey and help them to understand how the principle of 'Make do and Mend' is still very relevant today.

#### **QCA links**

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|-------------------------|---|
| • History Unit 9        | What was it like for children during WW2?             |
| • History Unit 13       | How has life in Britain changed since 1948?           |
| • History Unit 17       | What are we remembering on Remembrance Day?           |
| • History Unit 18       | What was it like to live here in the past?            |
| • Art & Design Unit 5C  | Talking Textiles                                      |
| • Geography Unit 17     | Global Eye – Recycling at Home                        |
| • Citizenship Unit 1    | Taking Part: Developing Communication & Participation |
| Citizenship Unit 08     | How do rules and laws affect me?                      |
| • English En1, En2, En3 | Presentation, Composition                             |

#### **Learning Objectives**

- To learn how people lived during WW2 and how it has impacted on Britain today
- To investigate and speak about textile-based objects
- To make observations and simple comparisons with modern textiles
- To develop empathy and understanding of people in living wartime.

- To learn new techniques for creating artwork with different materials
- To work in groups to produce a useful textile for the home
- To understand what is involved in effective listening
- To listen and respond to others
- To develop skills of discussion, negotiation and cooperation in a group

## **Workshop**

This workshop is suitable for up to 35 pupils and lasts approximately 1 hour.

The workshop takes place in the Education Room and will be led by a fully trained Learning Facilitator.

The Learning Facilitator introduces pupils to the concept of rationing and asks questions about WW2 to instigate an interactive discussion about the limitations of people living during wartime (10 minutes). Students will examine WW2 textile objects in groups and make links with other rationed items (15 minutes) before presenting their objects to the class. In their groups pupils then rotate around discovery and craft boxes relating to different areas of 'making do' during WW2 (30 minutes). These include mystery wartime textile objects, a 'true or false' WW2 game show, a 'design your wartime wardrobe' challenge and a craft activity where students will make their own recycled bunting for a VE day party.

The Learning Facilitator will then bring the class back together to summarise how life would have been if they were alive in WW2 and to further investigate how 'make do and mend' is still relevant to us today (5 minutes).

## **The Galleries**

We have two galleries that support the Make Do and Mend workshop and we highly recommend an independent gallery visit to support your pupil's learning journey.

The Heritage Gallery offers an exciting and ever-changing exhibition of quilts from the past whilst the Bailey Gallery offers the chance to see some contemporary quilts and learn how traditional quilting techniques and materials have developed.

Current Exhibition Trails and Teacher's Information Sheets are sent to all teachers who book an independent gallery visit.

## **Pre-visit activity suggestions**

- Complete WW2 'action' maps and a picture timeline
- Have an evacuation day exploring what happened to children and their families
- Make gas mask boxes, name tags and ration cards to wear when you come to the Museum
- Explore WW2 food by producing a 'cooking on rations' TV show presentation
- Invent a 'Make do and Mend' at home trail with students looking for things that have been fixed or mended over time e.g. toys & teddies, curtains, clothes

## **Follow-up activities**

- More sewing skills in the classroom – we can offer this as an outreach session or help you with ideas for basic sewing sessions/projects
- Produce a 'shop window display' illustrating rationed foods and materials
- Write a story or poem about make do and mend or a family during WW2
- Hold a 'make do and mend day' when you fix broken things
- Encourage the school to run a 'make do and mend' community tidy-up scheme or make links with local allotment holders and learn about growing your own food

Your 'Make Do and Mend' notes:

