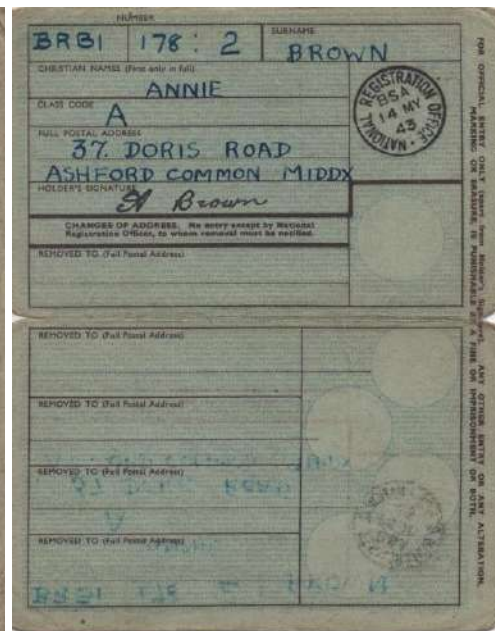
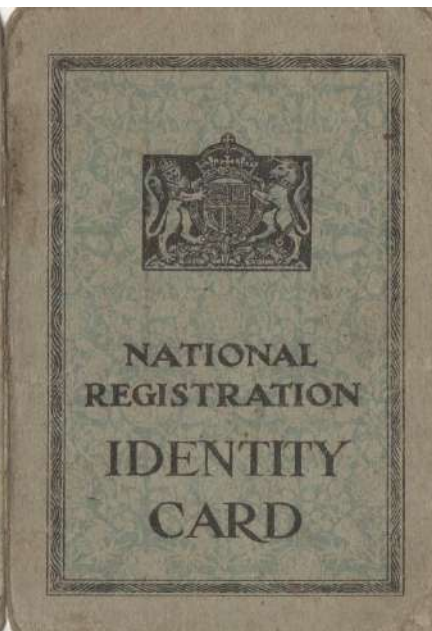
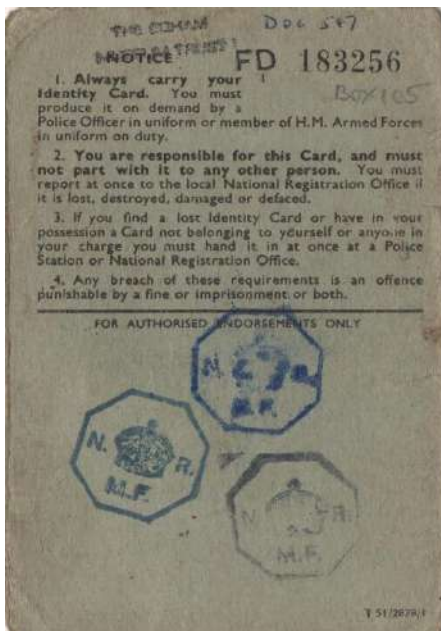


## The Second World War

**The Second World War in Europe began on 1<sup>st</sup> September, 1939 when Germany invaded Poland.**

Great Britain and France responded by declaring war on Germany on 3<sup>rd</sup> September, and the following day the National Registration Bill was passed which introduced Identity Cards. The government required every UK resident to carry an Identity Card which would help them keep an up-to-date record of who was where, plan for evacuation, mobilisation, rationing and manage the economy, as well as making it harder for German spies. The identity scheme was finally abolished in February 1952.

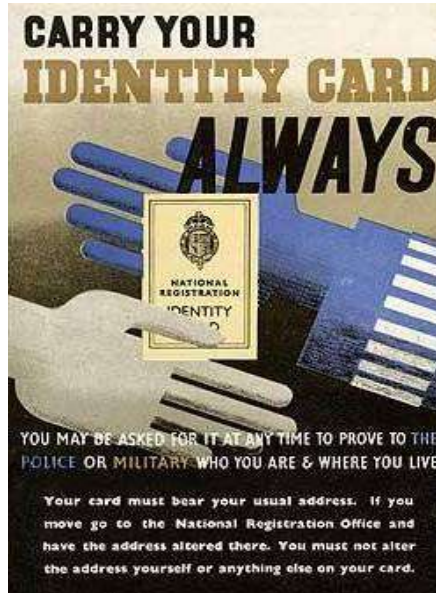


### Instructions

Take a sheet of card and cut out a rectangle measuring approximately 10cm by 15cm.



Using the images on this page as an example design your own wartime ID card.



**Why are there so many spaces for different addresses?**

During the war some people had to move around a lot. This could be because they had to leave their home because of bomb damage or moved to a new area to work in a factory to help the war effort.

# Gas Masks

## The Second World War

Everyone in Britain was given a gas mask to protect themselves against a poisonous gas attack. Poisoned gas had been used as a weapon during the First World War and had killed many soldiers. There was a fear that Hitler, despite himself having been the victim of a gas attack in the First World War, would use it against British civilians. The government told people to carry their gas masks with them at all times and you could be fined if you were caught without one.

### PACKING OF RESPIRATOR

The Respirator should be placed in box with heavy end (container) standing on the bottom of the box.  
The transparent eyepiece should lie evenly on the top of the container and at full length without any deformation.

#### WHEN RESPIRATOR IS REQUIRED FOR USE.

1. Hold Respirator by the straps.
2. Put on by first putting chin into the facepiece and then draw the straps over the head. Adjust straps to obtain close but comfortable fit.
3. Take off by pulling the straps over the head from the back. **DO NOT TAKE RESPIRATOR OFF BY PULLING THE CONTAINER UPWARDS OVER THE FACE.**

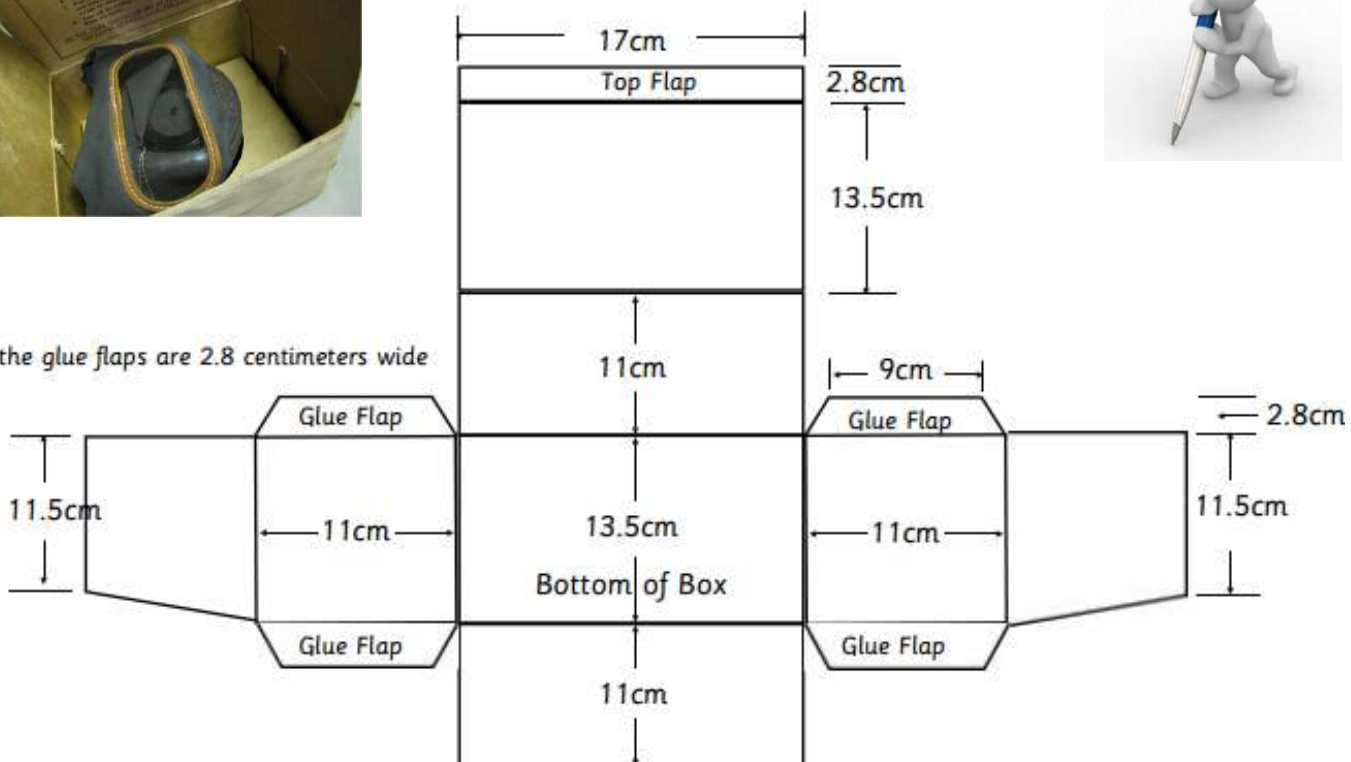
B.C.C LTD.

Instructions:

1. Take a large sheet of card, ideally brown, and carefully draw out the shape pictured above to the correct measurements.
2. Cut out the shape and then fold along the lines you have drawn.
3. Write out the instructions (pictured on the left) on a sheet of paper and glue them to the inside of the lid or write directly onto the inside of the lid itself.
4. Finally, put glue on the glue flaps and attach them to the inside of the box.



All the glue flaps are 2.8 centimeters wide



# Gas Masks

## The Second World War



P4132

### Hoodlike Gas Mask Protects Babies

THREE years of research have solved the grim problem of fitting babies with gas masks, according to the British designer of the model illustrated in use below. Rubberized gasproof fabric completely incloses an infant from the waist up in a capacious hood with a large cellulose acetate window. A hand bellows operated by the parent supplies pure filtered air for the baby to breathe.



Pure air is fed to this infants' gas mask by operating the bellows with the hands

**Imagine you are one of the children pictured above.**

What do you think it would have been like having to have your gas mask with you at all times? What else would make your school day different to a typical school day today?



# Evacuation

## The Second World War



Match the captions to the pictures:

First-hand stories of adventures on the sea add a new joy to life for boys and a small girl evacuated from London to a fishing village in Devon. No doubt, too, the old salt loves to tell them!



The best sport these youngsters from the East End of London have hitherto enjoyed has been fishing for 'tiddlers' in a London park. Now they are guests at one of the Duke of Bedford's houses, Sarratt Mill in Hertfordshire, and though the catches may not be big, novel conditions lend zest to their sport.

At Blackpool, this grandmother from the East End of London enjoys a paddle perhaps even more than her charges.

Lady Brooke Popham sees that the little Londoners to whom she has given a home have a good time; a bunch of them enjoy a ride in the gardeners' truck while Lady Brooke Popham consoles one of them who, being a Londoner, perhaps feels safer on a tram.



While the above photographs from a newspaper article from 6<sup>th</sup> December 1940 makes evacuation look very enjoyable, it was not a pleasant experience for everyone.

What do you think were the good and the bad things about being evacuated? (Make a list below)

The Good

The Bad

# The Second World War



## What was the ARP and what did it do?

The Air Raid Precaution organisation was set up before the Second World War and was dedicated to protecting civilians from the danger of air raids. ARP wardens were responsible for issuing gas masks and air raid shelters, maintaining public shelters and policing the black out. The rattle, pictured above, would be used to warn people about a possible air raid.



**If we had black-outs today how would you stop light from houses being seen from the street?**

**What other methods can you think of for warning people about an air-raid?**

**What do you think it would feel like to be in a shelter during an air-raid?**



# Home Guard

## The Second World War



### Norwegian Home Guard in Egham!

#### How did Norwegians come to serve in the British Home Guard?

When Germany invaded Norway in 1940 radio messages were sent from Britain to Norwegian ships telling them to sail to England. The Norwegians that came then expressed a wish to join the Home Guard. The platoon grew to be 50 strong and was even visited by the King.



### Why would Norwegian sailors want to join the British Home Guard?



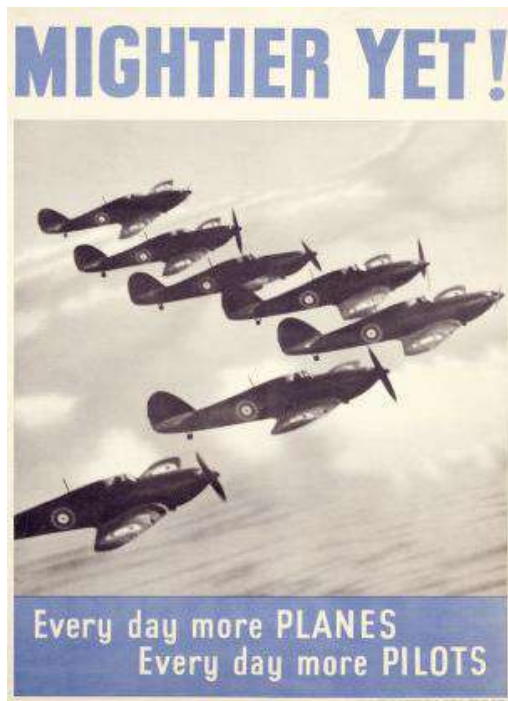
# RAF Spitfire

## The Second World War



Toy Spitfire

The Spitfire is the most famous British aeroplane of the Second World War and was used in many propaganda posters. While more Hurricane planes fought in the Battle of Britain it was the speed and design of the Spitfire that caught the public's imagination.



Using the posters here as an example, you can try designing your own poster celebrating the Spitfire.



# German Aerial Photo The Second World War

Look at the photograph and see how many places or landmarks on the list you can find.



A German aerial photograph of Egham and Staines from September 1940

## Can you find:

- the two bridges going into Staines, and can you tell which one is the road bridge and which is railway bridge
- Runnymede (a clue: it is marked by one of the sixes)
- the Gas Works (look for two circles)
- Royal Holloway College (look for a large building with trees to its right)
- Egham High Street (look near the German writing)

## Additional questions:



Why do you think the Germans were photographing Britain from the air?

If you were to follow the river off the left hand side of the photograph which town would it take you to: Richmond, Windsor or Staines?



# Incendiary Bombs

## The Second World War

What were incendiary bombs?



Incendiary bombs, also called firebombs, were designed to start fires. These fires would then burn at extremely high temperatures, which would then destroy buildings. While intended to be used against factories these weapons also caused fires in civilian areas and became seen as weapons used to spread fear.



What is the date on the bomb? What is unusual about the date?

Design your own poster warning about the dangers of firebombs.

A famous propaganda poster showing a firebomb



# Bomb Damage

## The Second World War

P1978: Bomb damage in Egham High Street, where Tesco is now situated



It was not only cities that were bombed during the Second World War. Even small towns like Egham were sometimes hit. The photograph above shows Arkell's draper's shop in Egham High Street. Sadly Mr Arkell's daughter and two evacuees died in the bombing. This shows that children, even when evacuated, were still at risk of becoming victims of the war.



P2015 & P2018: Bomb damaged houses in Egham Hythe



P1981: Looking up from a bomb crater



We don't know whether Egham was bombed on purpose or by accident. Egham did have several important factories producing war materials but none of these was bombed. It could simply have been that the German crew could not find their main targets that evening and dropped the bombs randomly on their way back to make their planes lighter and save fuel.

# Fire Service

## The Second World War

### BECOME A FIRE-FIGHTER!

*Women can help too!*

Although the actual work of fire-fighting is a man's job there are certain duties about the fire station of which men might be relieved in war time and the work taken over by women. Watch room, telephone and messenger duties are such that they can be done by women and applications from a few women to enrol in the A.F.S. will be considered. Apply now before the limited number have been enrolled.



*Men Urgently Wanted to Man New Engines*

All fit men of 25 and over are eligible for this service. They will act as fire patrols with light appliances to discover and deal with fires caused by incendiary bombs.

They will also form crews of larger appliances at auxiliary fire stations to await instructions from Air Raid Wardens and to deal with larger outbreaks.

Auxiliary Fire Service Volunteers will also relieve the regular firemen in time of emergency, and perform watch room, telephone, messenger or other duties.

The detailed syllabus of training is overleaf. There will be instructions in the handling of fire appliances, fire drill, incendiary bombs, working in smoke, first aid, brigade organisation and war organisation.

Talks on fire prevention and causes of fire will have a peacetime application too! The whole course is a fascinating insight into the work of the regular fire brigade.

It is the type of service in which refresher courses are of particular value . . . and these will be given at intervals, and where practicable there will be attendance with the brigade at fires.

# A.F.S.

Using the sources above and in the previous page, answer the following questions

1. Fires caused by firebombs burned at \_\_\_\_\_ temperatures?

- Low       Medium       High

2. How old did you have to be to join the A.F.S.?

- 16       21       25

3. The Fire Guard offered a way to beat 'Firebomb \_\_\_\_\_'

- Frank       Fritz       Freddy

4. Women were offered watch room, telephone and what other types of duties?

- Messenger       Medic       Management



# Fire Service

## The Second World War



P1887: Residents of Thorpe with their fire fighting equipment, buckets, a spade and stirrup pump.



P1977: Fire Engines looked very different in the 1940s. This was Egham's Fire Engine.



P1886: Here we see a closer picture of the pump and hoses that the fire engine towed.

### The Fire Guard's Handbook, 1942

Britain's Fire Guard has been formed as an essential factor in the defence of this country against the attempts of the enemy to destroy its industries and to win the war by fire. Fire bomb raids are a threat to the very life of the nation. As is well known a very small number of bomber aeroplanes can shower many thousands of small incendiary bombs over a town in the space of a few minutes; and these, if left alone, will start more fires than could possibly be put out either by the National Fire Service or by the efforts of unauthorised and untrained individuals, however well meaning they may be. This is why it becomes the duty of all able bodied men and women to give whatever service they can in the part-time army of millions of citizens trained to deal with fire bombs promptly whenever and wherever they fall.

The duty of a Fire Guard is to take turns in watching for the fall of fire bombs; to warn the neighbourhood when they fall in the area for which he is responsible; to help promptly to control them and thus to prevent small fires from becoming big fires; ... It is work which sometimes requires courage and endurance; it involves the sacrifice of time that can sometimes be ill spared, and often entails a great deal of tedious waiting and watching; but it is work which must be done if the homes and industries of the Nation are to be saved.

Why couldn't fighting fires be left to the Fire Brigades? Can you spot the light and siren on this Fire Engine? How does this Fire Engine differ from those of today?

# Women's Roles

## The Second World War



P1889

How many men and how many women are there in the above picture?

What challenges do you think ambulance drivers faced when driving in a black-out?



**IT'S A WOMAN'S JOB**

*Men! admit it, women CAN drive*

DOC1084

The establishment of a driving test common to both men and women has removed from the present generation any reflection on the ability of the latter. In A.R.P., driving is a woman's job. It releases men for the heavier tasks, and the daughters of to-day will not admit themselves any less efficient or public spirited than their mothers who shouldered similar burdens over twenty years ago. Driving in a black-out, calls for rather more than the usual degree of skill and nerve. We say that, not as a deterrent, but as a challenge to the women of Egham to show us what they can do.

During the Second World War women were called upon to do jobs that had previously been considered men's work. Being an ambulance driver was one such job. Driving an ambulance during a black-out (when all the lights had to be either off or covered so they didn't attract the attention of German bombers) was very difficult.

# Women's Roles

## The Second World War

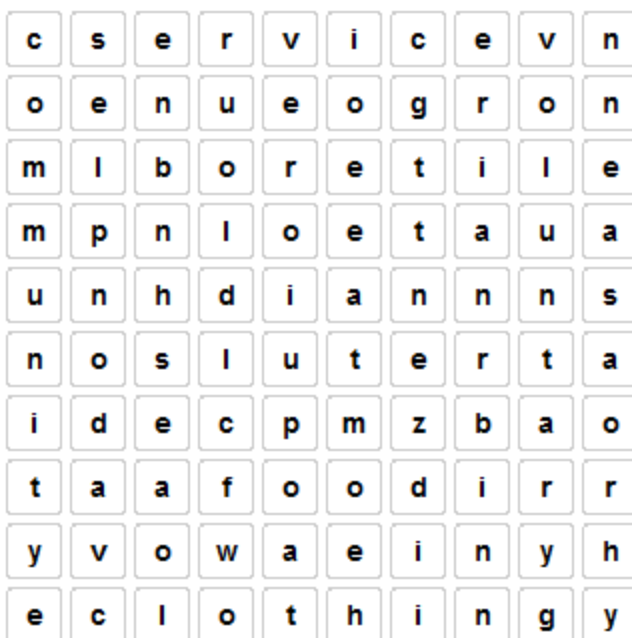


### What was the Women's Voluntary Service (WVS)?

The WVS was founded in 1938 and during the Second World War performed various roles. They informed people about air-raids and how to protect themselves, they helped organise the evacuation of children from cities, collected clothing for those in need and helped provide food and drink to those in bombed areas. Working in bombed areas could be very dangerous. Over 240 members of the WVS were killed during the Blitz. The WVS became the Women's Royal Voluntary Service in 1966 and continues to help people today, providing the 'meals on wheels' service and community buses.



Can you find the following words:  
**women, voluntary, service,**  
**community, evacuation, clothing,**  
**food, blitz**



# Warship Week

## The Second World War



P1410: HMS Orestes

### Egham and Warship Week, 7<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> March 1942

To protect supply ships and help win the war the British needed to build warships. However, the government was short of money and so asked cities and towns to help. Cities were asked to raise money to build a battleship or aircraft carrier while towns and villages were asked to raise money for smaller ships like cruisers or destroyers. Egham raised over £135,000 pounds to pay for the HMS Orestes, a minesweeper ship. In total, across the entire country, £955 million was raised.



#### Why did Britain need more warships?

Britain needed warships to protect \_\_\_\_\_ ships bringing the country essential materials such as food and timber.

#### What types of ship were cities asked to raise money for?

Cities, because they had more people than towns, were asked to raise money for the largest ships, such as \_\_\_\_\_ and aircraft carriers.

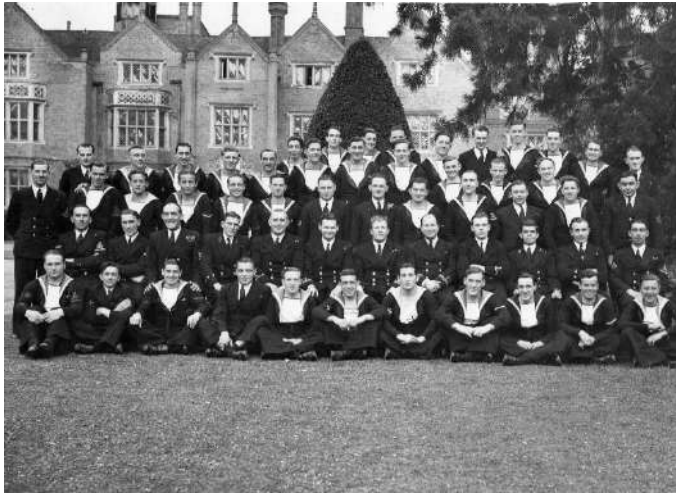
How much money did Egham raise and what was the name of the ship it paid for?

Egham raised £ \_\_\_\_\_ and the ship was called \_\_\_\_\_.

# Warship Week

## The Second World War

In the pictures below we see first the HMS Orestes and then her crew visiting Egham during Warship Week (7-11<sup>th</sup> March, 1942). Read the paragraph below and fill in the missing words.



To \_\_\_\_\_ ships bringing essential supplies to Britain, such as \_\_\_\_\_, wood and weapons, the British needed to build more \_\_\_\_\_. However, the government was short of money and so asked cities and towns to help. Cities were asked to raise money to help build a battleship or aircraft carrier while towns and \_\_\_\_\_ were asked to raise money for smaller ships like cruisers or destroyers. The campaign was called 'Warship Week'. Egham rose over £135,000 to pay for HMS Orestes, a minesweeper. In total, over the entire country, £955 \_\_\_\_\_ was raised to build new warships.



### Missing Words:

warships  
protect  
villages  
food  
million



Minesweepers are small warships designed to protect other ships from the threat posed by sea mines. They do this by searching, or 'sweeping', an area for mines before other ships pass through it. Sea mines are floating bombs designed to sink ships. As Britain is an island it was dependent upon shipping to get essential supplies during the war. Minesweepers, like the Orestes, therefore played a very important role.



# Rationing

## The Second World War

The word “ration” means a portion, or an allowance and this is exactly what rationing was – it was the set amount of food you were allowed to buy, depending on how many people were in your family.

Rationing was introduced because there wasn't as much food available during the war. It became more difficult for food to be brought to Britain, and food had to be sent to the troops fighting in Europe.

The list of things which were rationed grew longer and longer as the war continued. Both foods and clothes were rationed during this period, as well as a few other household goods. Here is a list of what food would be rationed by 1943 – the middle of the wartime period – for a week:



- Milk (3 pints)**
- Meat (3 ¼ lbs)**
- Egg (1 egg or 1 packet of dried eggs every 2 months)**
- Cheese (3 - 4 ounces)**
- Bacon and ham (4 ounces)**
- Tea (2 ounces)**
- Sugar (8 ounces)**
- Butter (2 ounces)**
- Cooking fat (2 ounces)**

Children under the age of 3 would also receive a daily allowance of milk, Vitamin C and cod liver oil.

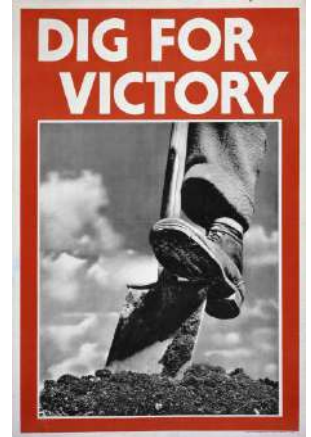
# Rationing

## The Second World War

During the war, the government encouraged a **“Dig for Victory”** campaign. They wanted people to grow their own fruits and vegetables, in order to make sure they had enough food while many things were being rationed.

Rationing ended in 1954, 14 years after it was introduced.

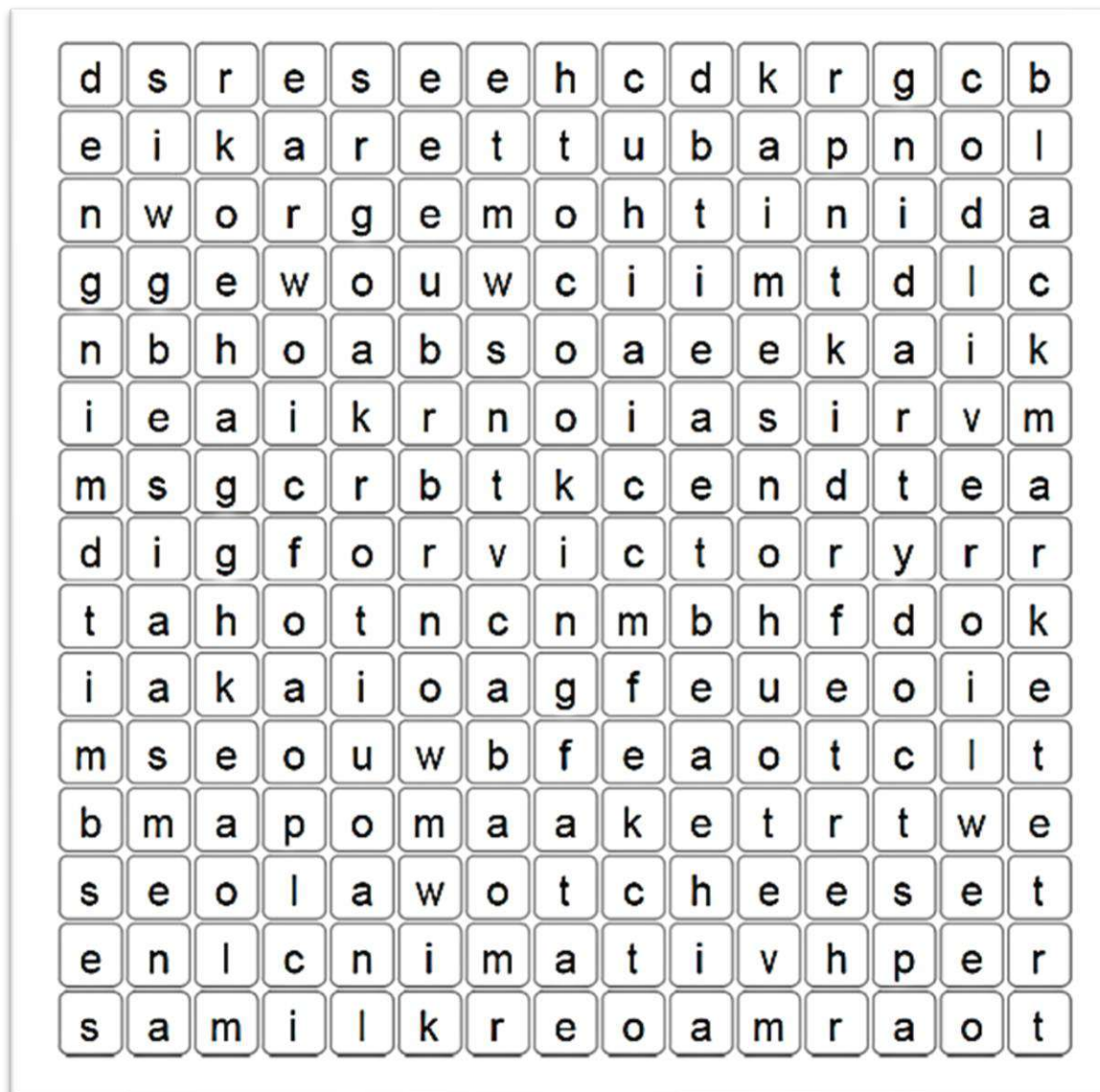
To encourage more people to grow their own food, the government used posters – **design your own “Dig for Victory” poster below:**



# Rationing

## The Second World War

### Rationing Word-Search:



### Words to find:

Dig for Victory  
Ration books  
Cod liver oil  
Black market  
Allowances

Meat  
Milk  
Egg  
Ham  
Tea

Trading  
Butter  
Cheese  
Bacon  
Sugar

Cooking fat  
Home grown  
Vitamin C  
Coupons  
Wartime

# A Message from the King

## The Second World War

When Britain won the war King George VI sent this message to school children.

DOC1063



8th June, 1946

**T**O-DAY, AS WE CELEBRATE VICTORY, I send this personal message to you and all other boys and girls at school. For you have shared in the hardships and dangers of a total war and you have shared no less in the triumph of the Allied Nations.

I know you will always feel proud to belong to a country which was capable of such supreme effort; proud, too, of parents and elder brothers and sisters who by their courage, endurance and enterprise brought victory. May these qualities be yours as you grow up and join in the common effort to establish among the nations of the world unity and peace.

*George R.I.*



### Questions

- What hardships do you think children had during the war?
- What qualities does the King say he hopes children will learn from their parents?
- When did George VI become King and what was unusual about how he came to the throne?
- How many times was Buckingham Palace bombed during the war?

### King George VI (r. 1936-1952)

George VI became King unexpectedly following the abdication of his brother, King Edward VIII, in 1936. A conscientious and dedicated man, he worked hard to adapt to the role into which he was suddenly thrown.

Reserved by nature, and of deep religious belief, he was helped in his work by his wife. He had married Lady Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon in 1923. His greatest achievements came during the Second World War, when he remained for most of the time at Buckingham Palace (the Palace was bombed nine times during the war). He and his wife, Queen Elizabeth, visited severely bombed areas in the East End of London and elsewhere in the country, gained him great popularity. In June 1944, the King visited his Army on the Normandy beaches 10 days after D-Day, and later that year he visited troops in Italy and the Low Countries. On VE (Victory in Europe) Day, 8 May 1945, Buckingham Palace was a focal point of the celebrations. The war had immeasurably strengthened the link between the King and his people.

(Text from the official website of the British Monarchy [www.royal.gov.uk](http://www.royal.gov.uk))