

Cranwell Aviation Heritage Museum

Resource Box



This Resource Box has been designed with children and young people in mind, and can be used while visiting the museum or at school with help from teachers and teaching assistants.

The activities included in this pack are meant to be ideas on how you might use the box to explore the stories being told at Cranwell, but the best way to get the most from the box is to ...

use your imagination!

Activity ideas include:

Mystery objects - touch, think, tell.

Dressing the part – freeze frames in history.

What do you want... a medal?

Money, money, money!

Art and soul.



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Dressing the part – Freeze frames in history



World War 2 took place over seventy years ago, between 1939 and 1945.

Many children had to leave their homes to stay with other families because their houses might be bombed by airplanes.

These children were called ‘evacuees’

Activity idea:

- Use the costumes in the box to dress up like an evacuee from World War 2 – everyone can have a turn.
- Use your drama skills to create a ‘freeze frame’ like the picture of the evacuee children above – discuss what you would be thinking and feeling if you had to leave your home.
- Use a camera or tablet to capture your freeze frame – ask your teacher or teaching assistant to help you make a display of your freeze frames.

Extra activity:

At home or school, use your thoughts about being an evacuee to write a diary as if you were sent away from home, or a letter home to your parents once you arrived at your new home.

What do you want... a medal?



This medal is called the **Distinguished Flying Cross or DFC**—you'll find one in the box.

The DFC was first awarded during World War 1 or WWI in 1918 – it was given to people for 'acts of valour, courage or devotion to duty'.

People who have been awarded the DFC include Michelle Goodman who was trained at RAF College Cranwell, and was the first woman to be awarded the DFC.

Activity idea:

- Discuss what type of people should get medals (as well as pilots and soldiers)
- Design your own medal – think about what the medal should look like; what's it made of? Who would be awarded it?

Money, money, money!



During World War 1 and World War 2 we used a different system of money in Great Britain.

Instead of 100 pennies in the pound, there were 240!

Coins had different names too, not just 5p piece, or £1 coin.

There were coins called 'shillings', which were worth 12 pence and some called 'half-crowns' that were worth two shillings and sixpence. It was like a different country!

Activity idea:

- Have a look at the old coins in the box. Touch them and look at them closely to see how they are the same and different from our coins today.
- Do some sums with the coins.
- Remember that back then, they used pounds, shillings and pence.
- At home or at school, go online to find out more about the old system of money and why they used the letter 'd' instead of 'p' for pence.

Now:	Then:
$10 \times 1p = 10p$	$12 \times 1d = 1 \text{ shilling (1s)}$
$10 \times 10p = \text{£}1.00$	$2 \frac{1}{2} \times 1s = \text{Half Crown (30d)}$
$10 \times \text{£}1.00 = \text{£}10$	$10 \times 1s = 120d$
$10 \times \text{£}10 = \text{£}100$	$20s = \text{£}1 (240d)$
$10 \times \text{£}100 = \text{£}1000$	

Mystery objects – touch, think, tell.



Do you think you're good at working things out?

In the box, there is a mystery object and some other objects that will give you some clues – let's see what you make of them.

Activity idea:

- This will work best in a small group with some help from an adult.
- Give the mystery object to the group. Ask each member of the group to discuss:
 - What's it made of?
 - What does it feel like?
 - When was it made?
 - Who would have made it?
 - Is it valuable?
 - What is it used for?
- If the group cannot work out what the mystery object is, let them see the first clue (buttons) and then the second clue (Brasso) – this should clear it up.

Art and Soul



This is picture of something called ‘Trench Art’ – this piece was made in Syria.

Trench Art is what we call objects made by soldiers and prisoners of war, usually out of materials like bullets and shells like this one.

You’ll find a piece of trench art in the box.

Touch it, get a feel for it, think about the man or woman who made it.

Activity idea:

In this activity, you are going to be an art expert.

- On a piece of paper or screen, **describe** the object in no more than 25 words
- In another 25 words, **explain** what the maker was trying to achieve with this piece of art
- Finally, in 25 words, **decide** if the artist has been successful (have they done what they set out to do?)

If we were meant to fly, we'd have wings!



Lots of people like model aeroplanes. Or is it airplanes?

This is a picture of the Jet Provost aircraft that you can see at the Heritage Centre. There is a model of this aircraft, and another one, in the box for you to look at.

Activity idea:

- Find out as much as you can about the Jet provost and the other aircraft used at RAF College Cranwell
- Using the models as aids, make sure you know about every part of the aircraft, and how it works
- Speak to staff at the museum or a teacher, or use your own research skills at home or school

Extra activity:

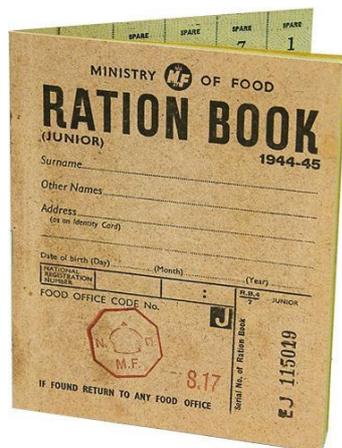
You can use paper aeroplanes to do a great science experiment:

- Make a paper aeroplane – you can use any design you want. Ask an adult to help if you've not made one before.
- Measure out an 'airfield' 20 metres long – or longer or shorter depending on the space you're in. You can use the Heritage Centre floor, your school hall or playing field.
- Using a stop watch -there's one on most mobile phones - measure how long it takes the paper plane to travel the length of the airfield.
- Use this calculation to work out how fast your plane was going:

$$\text{Speed} = \text{Distance} \div \text{Time}$$

- Try different designs to see which one goes the fastest. Think about why one paper 'plane goes faster than another.

Children's War.



Can you imagine what it would be like if you were only allowed so much food each week?

This was called 'rationing'.

Then you had to go to different shops to get different things – there were no supermarkets in Great Britain during World War 2.

Some young people were expected to go to work when they were 15 years old – for 54 hours a week!



Not everything was bad though. There were special shows at the cinema for children and young people, especially on Saturday mornings.

Boys and girls had their own comic books too.

They even produced a newspaper just for children.

Have a look at all the cards, posters and letters in the resource box.

Activity ideas:

What do you think of the Boy's Own comic? Would you buy it today? Why is it aimed at boys only?

Why do you think that the cinema was so popular with children during the war?

At home or in school, do some more research about rationing – how much food was a child allowed each week?

Children's War activity ideas, continued:

Have a good look at the Children's Newspaper. Does it have any stories or news that you would be interested in?

- Work in groups to think about what stories and news are interesting to other young people in your school or family
- Like a T.V. journalist, interview other people to see what they think about the big issues going on around them; you could ask them about:
 - What they like (and dislike) about their village, town or city
 - Issues at school, like school meals or uniform or which lessons they like
 - Sport and games – what they like to play and which teams they support
 - Entertainment – reviews of TV programmes, plays, books and music.
- Create a class newspaper with articles from different reporters. You could even post it online on your school website.