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  #HACONF22

ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2022

In person and online

Friday 13 and Saturday 14 May 2022

Bristol Marriott Hotel City Centre

The best days of your life? Going to school in the past

Helen Crawford and Paul Bracey

Sponsored by



Objectives

- To identify a range of sources for investigating going to school in the past
- To identify approaches for planning, teaching and learning about going to school in the past at EYFS, KS1 and KS2
- To establish ways of teaching and learning within a broadly based chronological framework

What sources can we use? How can we use them?

[KS1 pupils]...should understand some of the ways in which we find out about the past

[KS2 pupils]...should understand how our knowledge of the past is constructed from a range of sources.



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Identifying different types of schools



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Thinking
about how
school
buildings
have
changed



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Oral history – interviewing a person about their school days



Jane attended Yelvertoft School, Northamptonshire, from 1971-77

- When did you start at the school?
When did you leave?
- What was your classroom like?
- What equipment did you use?
- What were lunchtimes and breaktimes like?
- What happened if someone misbehaved?
- Were there different activities for boys and girls?
- Do you have any special memories? e.g. events, visits.





Jane attended Yelvertoft School
from 1971-77

‘Naughty children were sent to the Headmaster who sometimes hit them with a cane, but corporal punishment - which was often used in schools in the 1970s - was no longer used in my school by the time I left.’

‘The classrooms had large blackboards which the teachers wrote on with chalk and there were displays around the walls. The desks were made of wood and you could lift up the tops.’

‘We wrote with ink pens which had cartridges, used textbooks and the school had a library.’

‘On Monday afternoon the girls had needlework lessons and the boys did woodwork and leather craft.’

‘On May Day we were given the morning off lessons and sent around the village to collect flowers which older people enjoyed. In the afternoon the local Women's Institute gave us tea and I remember having to take my own cutlery for this.’

Making links between your school and changes in the locality



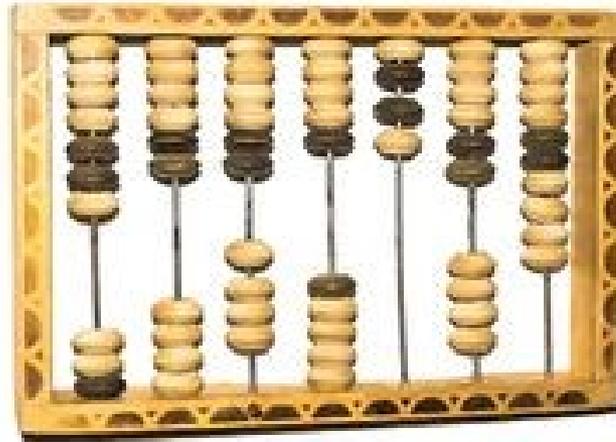
Using pictures and photographs



https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/7/73/Thomas_George_Webster_%281800-1886%29_-_A_Dame%27s_School_-_N00427_-_National_Gallery.jpg

[This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under CC BY-SA](#)

Examining classroom objects from different times in the past



[This Photo](#) by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY-SA](#)

<https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/5/54/ImagineRITCaryGraphicArtsCollectionHornbook.jpg>



Investigating old
school documents

Going to school in the past: opportunities at EYFS & Key Stage 1

- Know some similarities and differences between things in the past and now, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class (EYFS)
- Changes within living memory. Where appropriate, these should be used to reveal aspects of change in national life (KS1)
- Significant historical events, people and places in their own locality (KS1)

Changes within living memory- Linking your school to events or people of national significance



repertoire, which I were warmly
applauded by both the Royal
visitors.

A huge portion of
Princess Elizabeth's birthday cake
together with tokens, was
brought by the Duchess for
distribution to the children.
The visit lasted one hour
3pm to 4pm.

H Showie
Head Ma

Naseby C of E Primary Academy,
Northamptonshire

Comparing a specific period in the past with today



<https://player.bfi.org.uk/free/film/watch-primary-adventure-london-1970-1970-online>



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Changes within living memory - a chronological approach

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1920s | 1930s | 1940s | 1950s | 1960s | 1970s | 1980s | 1990s | 2000s | 2010s | 2020s |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|

End of corporal punishment in schools

WW2 and evacuation

KS1 fruit & vegetable scheme starts

First World Book Day

End of free milk in schools

Covid lockdown and home-schooling

First Oxford Reading Tree books published

Start of the National Curriculum

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zc9s6g8>

Going to school in the past: opportunities at Key Stage 2

- A local history study
- A study of an *aspect* or *theme* in British history that extends pupils' chronological knowledge beyond 1066

Considerations:

- How to link the study to a broader understanding of the past
- How to appreciate the relationship to broader events e.g. Henry VIII's split with the catholic church; industrialisation in Victorian times
- How to ensure that the topic relates to children

Planning for a broadly based understanding of the past

Option 1 – focus on one period in detail with overview links to going to school at other times in the past.

Option 2 – divide 1066 to the present into periods to draw out continuities/changes.

Option 3 – select different times in the past (e.g. Middle Ages, Tudors, Victorians, WW2 & the recent past) and draw out similarities and differences between them.

MTP: How far does watching a classroom role play tell me about what it was like to go to school in the past?

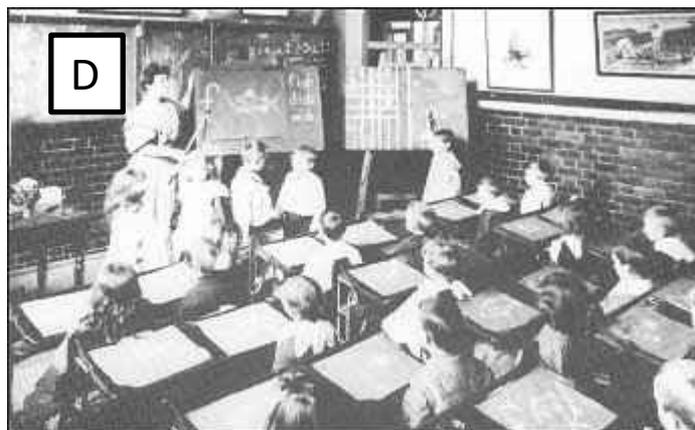
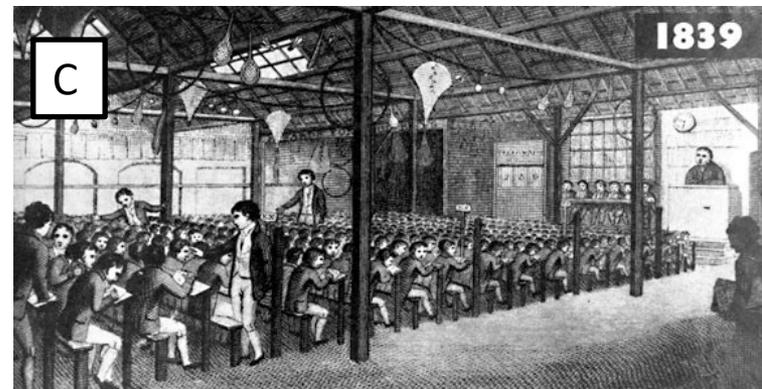
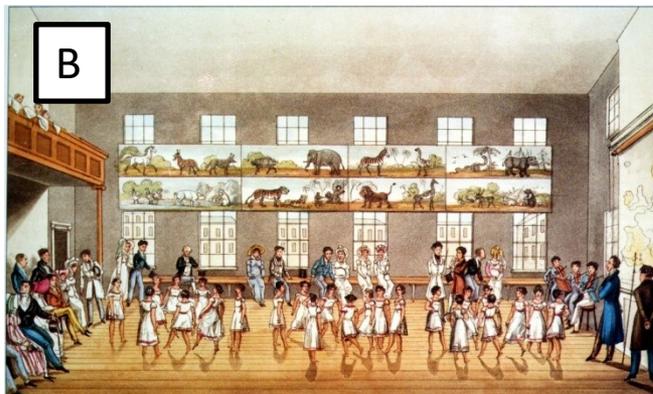
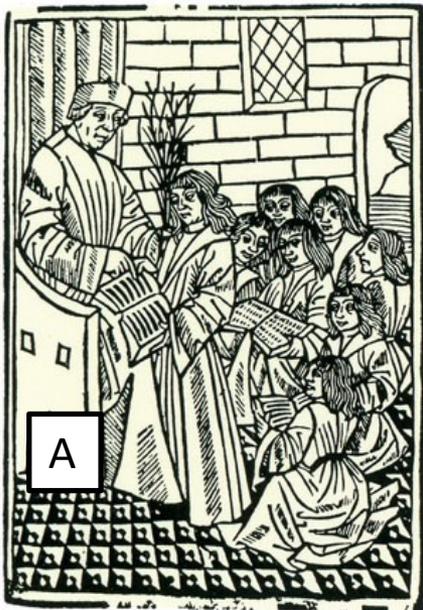


[BBC Two - Primary History, Children in Victorian Britain: Children at School, A Victorian Board School](#)

MTP: How far does watching a classroom role play tell me about what it was like to go to school in the past?

- Going to school in the past: what does a role play film suggest about going to school in the past? What questions does this raise?
- What sources are available?
- Going to school in the past: what can we find out from a person on our community? What can we find out from our school and its community?
- Going to school in the past: What was like to go to school in: the Middle Ages, Tudor times, Victorian era, World War 2 ? What are the similarities and differences between them?
- Going to school in the past: what was it like to go to school at different times and places in the past? (Ancient Greece, Ancient Egypt...)
- How far did the role play film give us an understanding of going to school in the past

Going to school: similarities and differences



Stanmore School Winchester -Photos from 1960s

<https://images.squarespace-cdn.com/content/v1/5b545b978ab722298aeeb748/1563223990588-BEPXJ4W2WFRGBY3H5MUM/Scan.jpeg?format=750w>



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Going to school: changes and continuities

- Classroom A - a medieval grammar school
- Classroom B - Robert Owen's school in the early 19th century
- Classroom C - a monitorial school in the early 19th century
- Classroom D - the late 19th century
- Classroom E – 1960s

Going to school in the Middle Ages c1066-1500



English Grammar school in the Middle Ages, 1338-1344.

Woodcut of a Medieval Song School



Teacher and pupils at an English Grammar School (from *Parvulorum Instituio* published in 1512)



Going to school - changes in Tudor times



https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/0/00/Guildhall_-_King_Edward_VI_Grammar_School_-_



<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?search=Edward+VI+of+England&title=Special:MediaSearch&type=image>



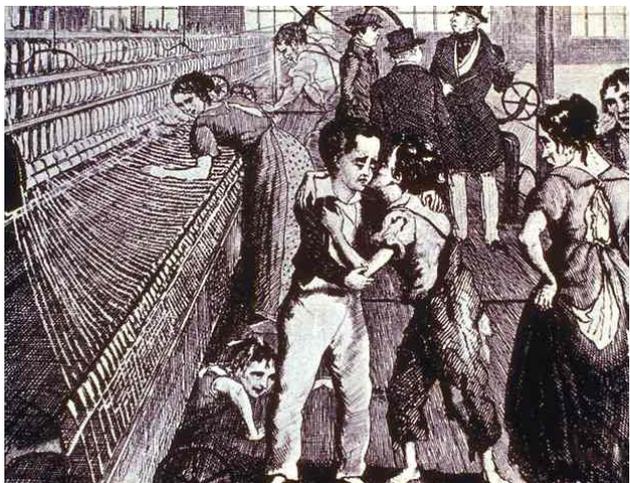
<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?search=Henry+VIII+of+England&title=Special:MediaSearch&type=image>



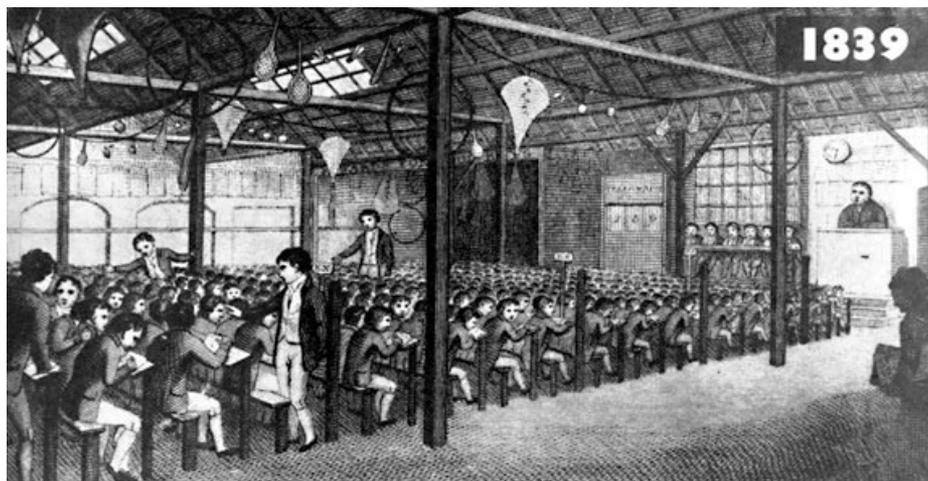
<https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/5/54/ImagineRITCaryGraphicArtsCollectionHornbook.jpggOI>

Going to school in Tudor times

- Henry VIII and breaking away from the Catholic Church led to closing of monastery schools but grammar schools increase
- Elementary learning in petty schools taught children to read
- Grammar schools – taught Latin, Greek, religion and mathematics for richer boys
- Richer girls taught at home by a tutor
- Punishment harsh – beatings
- Few books but increasing as result of Caxton's press
- Use of hornbooks
- Long school day – dawn to dusk
- Literacy increasing but most children still did not go to school



Going to school - changes in Victorian times



Going to school in Victorian times

- Change from few children going to school to compulsory schooling
- At the start of the period, church and private schools - Sunday Schools, Monitorial Schools, Dame Schools, Factory Schools, later Ragged Schools
- Government role increases – grants to 1870 Board Schools
- Rich and middle classes – improvements in grammar and public schools and education for girls

Going to school – World War 2



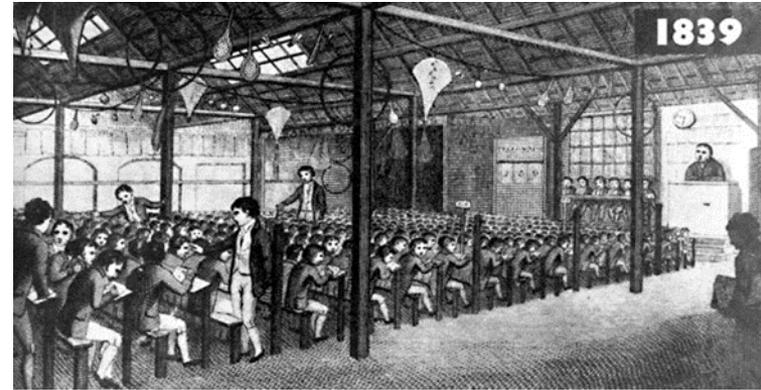
St George's church of
England school, Battersea



[https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/5/5d/
The_Evacuation_Scheme_in_Britain_1940_HU36871
.jpg](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/5/5d/The_Evacuation_Scheme_in_Britain_1940_HU36871.jpg)

Going to school during World War 2

- Schools affected by bombing/alternative uses in urban areas – disrupted learning
- Evacuation and schooling
- 1944 Education Act and the raising of school leaving age for all children



The best days of your life?



Websites - Tudor, Victorian and World War 2

<https://www.sixwives.info/tudor-education.htm>

<http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/tudors/schools.htm>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p011448p>

<http://www.victorianschool.co.uk>

<https://www.iwm.org.uk/history/growing-up-in-the-second-world-war>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/history/ww2peopleswar/stories/91/a1979391.shtml>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/znw4vk7>

<https://www.1900s.org.uk/1900s-40s-village-school.htm>



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Examples of school museums

- British Schools Museum. 41/42 Queen Street Hitchin SG4 9TS. Email: bsmcurator@gmail.com
- Ragged School, 6-50 Copperfield Road London E3 4RR
<https://www.raggedschoolmuseum.org.uk/>
- Sudbury Hall and the Museum of Childhood Sudbury Hall, Main Rd, Sudbury, Ashbourne DE6 5HT
- Historic Classroom-New Lanark Visitor Centre, New Lanark, World Heritage Site, South Lanarkshire, Scotland, ML11 9DB
- Wilderspin & National School Museum , 4 Queen St, Barton-upon-Humber DN18 5QP
- Shakespeare's Schoolroom & Guildhall, Church St, Stratford-upon-Avon CV37 6HB
- Black Country Living History Museum, Tipton Rd Dudley DY1 4SQ
- Beamish Living museum of the North <https://www.beamish.org.uk/learning/learning-activities/>
- St Johns House Museum, Warwick CV34 4NF

Historical Association resources

- Huddleston, A. (2010) Detectives: what were schools like in the past? Key Stage 1. *Nuffield Primary History* (history.org.uk)
- Kirkland, S. (2019) The Elizabeth cake, *Primary History*. Issue 83, pp. 18-20
- Lomas, T. (2016) Scheme of Work: Thematic study – Education. *Primary Curriculum Schemes of Work*. Historical Association
- Paterson, D. (2016) My Favourite History Place Nuneaton's Old Grammar School. *The Historian*, Issue 131, pp.42-43

Non-fiction books for pupils

Burch, C., 2009. *Growing up in World War Two: School*, London: Franklin Watts.

Hepplewhite, P., 2009. *Victorian education*, London: Franklin Watts.

Purkis, S., 2007. *Tudor children : four real children, four different lives*, London: A. & C. Black.

Royston, A., 2012. *History from objects: The Victorians*, London: Wayland.

Royston, A., 2012. *History from objects: The Tudors*, London: Wayland.

Ridley, S., 2015. *School, tell me what you remember London*: Franklin Watts.

Woolf, A., 2014. *Medieval Realms: Education*, Wayland.

Background Information

Academic Texts

Orme, N. (2006) *Medieval Schools. From Roman Britain to Renaissance England*. London. Yale University Press

Jewel, H. (1998) *Education in Early Modern England*. Basingstoke: MacMillan

Lawson, J. and Silver, H. (1973) *A Social History of Education*. London: Methuen

Stephens, S. (1998) *Education in Britain*. Basingstoke. Macmillan

Purkiss, S. (1993) *The Teacher's Guide to Using School Buildings*. London: English Heritage

World War 2 Source: Smith, L (2007) *Young Voices. British Children Remember World War 2*. London: Penguin

Examples of novels:

- Dickens, C. (1854) *Hard times*. London :Dent
- Hughes, R. (1857) *Tom Brown's Schooldays*. London: Harper

Historical account : Thompson, F. (1979) *Larkrise to Candleford*. Oxford:OUP

New Lanark film: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CwQ3UgCykPI>