

# Handling Boxes Overview



On the following pages you will find outlines of each of our boxes, with item highlights and suggested activities to help you select the right box for you.

**More detailed guides for each box are available on request.**

## **Important Information about the boxes:**

- Boxes are loaned out for a week at a time, but this can be extended providing there are no other bookings.
- Each box contains a variety of items, an information booklet to help you identify the items, laminated labels and some optional activities to help you make the most of your box.
- Hire of the box and all its contents costs £25 for a week. The invoice will be issued upon collection.
- If you would prefer, our Education Officer could bring the handling box to your school for a short visit instead. This also costs £25.

# Handling Boxes

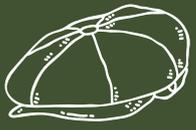
## Terms and Conditions

The museum lends these boxes on the understanding that you will look after them and return them in the same condition as you received them. Please make sure each teacher or group leader using the handling box receives and reads a copy of these terms and conditions.

Most of the handling objects are real museum objects; they can be hundreds of years old and difficult to replace. We want your group to experience the wonder of holding these objects. Please read the handling guide in the box to make sure they are handled safely.

- The objects may be used in supervised handling sessions only.
  - Do not leave objects unattended.
- Store the box and its contents in a secure place when not in use.
- A teacher or responsible adult must supervise the use of objects in accordance with the Handling Guide.
- At the end of each session, carefully pack the objects away and check them against the contents list.
  - Do not use the objects for any activity that may damage or destroy all or part of the object. Keep pens and crayons away from objects, do not bury, submerge or stick anything to them.
- Do not loan the box or individual items to other schools, institutions or anyone else.
  - Loans are subject to availability. Book early to avoid disappointment.
- Loans are for one week unless otherwise arranged. This can be extended with agreement from the museum.
  - Boxes cost £25 to borrow for a period of one week. Additional costs will apply if borrowed for a longer period.
- Collect the box and drop it back to the museum at the time and date agreed with the Education Officer.
- While the handling box is out of the museum it is the responsibility of the person named on the Loan Booking Form.
  - The contents of the boxes may change over time.

We hope you will take very good care of our precious objects, but we understand that even with the best care, occasionally something gets broken. Please tell us as soon as possible if this happens and ensure any broken pieces are returned in a bag along with the box. Do not attempt to repair the object yourself.



# Farming in the Fens



The Farming in the Fens handling box contains a variety of items to give students an overview of what life as a farmer would have been like in the local area.

The items included range from traditional clothing items to objects used in the day-to-day processes of managing a farm. They are made from a variety of materials – some of the items could be heavy for younger students or have sharp edges and should be handled with supervision.

Bird scarers



$\frac{1}{4}$  Peck Grain Measures

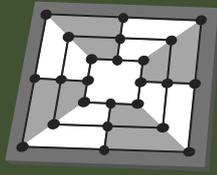


Horse Gag and Pill Pusher

## Activity suggestions:

*(more of these are provided in the box upon borrowing)*

- Promote discussion about the objects, do they know what they are? What do they think they might be used for?
- Investigate what they are made from? Use vocabulary like hard, soft, dull, shiny, waterproof, absorbent.
- Use the cards provided to make a museum display.
- Make a corn dolly or plant a seed.



# Tudors



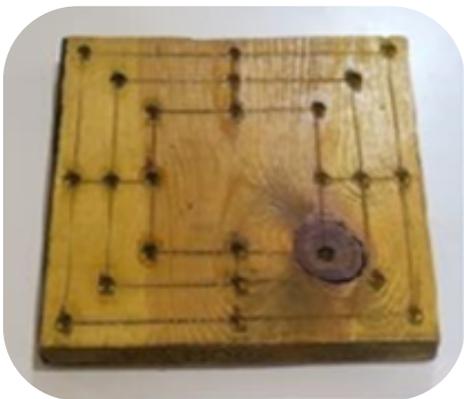
The Tudor Handling box contains a variety of objects to give students a feel for life in the Tudor period. Some of the objects in the box are replicas, which allows for plenty of handling.

The objects range from clothing, to games, and home decorations. Students could even try on the clothing to get into the spirit of being a Tudor!

Pomander



Man's Doublet



Nine Men's Morris



Urine Pot

## Activity suggestions:

(more of these are provided in the box upon borrowing)

- Promote discussion about the objects, do they know what they are? What do they think they might be used for?
- Investigate what they are made from? Use vocabulary like hard, soft, dull, shiny, waterproof, absorbent.
- Use the provided cards to make a museum display.
- Make your own quill or cup and ball game



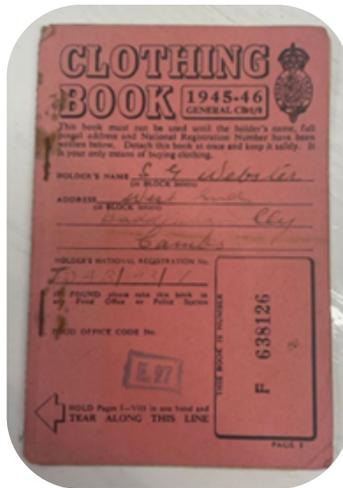
# The Home Front



The Home Front handling box contains a variety of items, both real and replica, to give students an idea of life at home during World War II.

The items included range from ration books to images of baby gas masks. Unfortunately, we are no longer able to loan out gas masks due to the asbestos in their filters. The items have been sorted into folders to separate replica items from originals.

Shrapnel



Clothing Ration Book



Air-raid Wardens  
Helmet

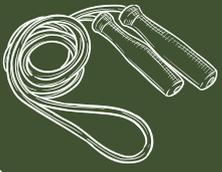


Yo-yo

## Activity suggestions:

(more of these are provided in the box upon borrowing)

- Promote discussion about the objects, do they know what they are? What do they think they might be used for?
- Investigate what they are made from? Use vocabulary like hard, soft, dull, shiny, waterproof, absorbent.
- Use the provided cards to make a museum display.
- Make your own gas mask box or VE day decorations



# Toys from the Past



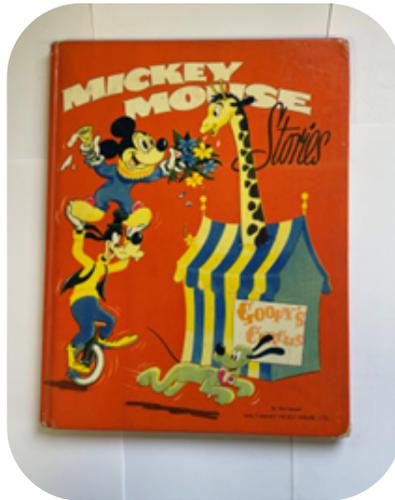
The first Toys from the Past handling box contains a variety of toys and books which would have been played with by children in different eras. This could also be used as a reminiscence box for adults.

It contains a mix of real and replica toys. We encourage you to have a go with the toys in this box, as long as you do so with care, so you can really experience what it would have been like to be a child in the past.

Mickey Mouse  
story book



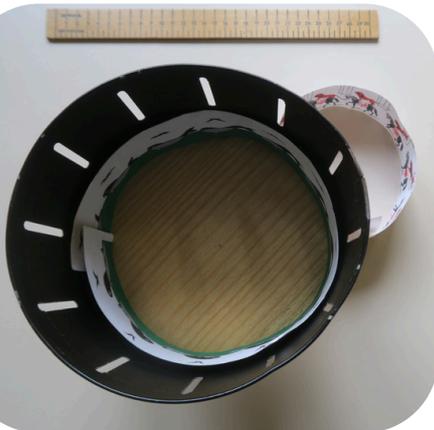
Pecking chicken



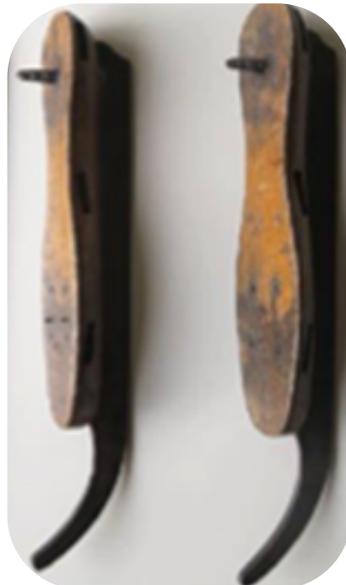
## **Activity suggestions:**

(more of these are provided in the box upon borrowing)

- Promote discussion about the objects, do they know what they are? What do they think they might be used for?
- Investigate what they are made from? Use vocabulary like hard, soft, dull, shiny, waterproof, absorbent.
- Use the provided cards to make a museum display.
- Make your own thaumatrope or snakes and ladders game



Zoetrope



Fen Skates