

Title: Wartime Eggs

Subject Area: History

Key Stage 2

NC link: 2, 4a and 11b

Learning Objective:

- Children study the changes that were made in food production and rationing during the Second World War.
- Children investigate the ways that eggs were preserved.
- Children consider the keeping of chickens as a source of food and its importance at this time.
- Children write a letter.

Resources:

- Access to the internet if appropriate.
- If possible organize a visit by someone who was affected by this during the war and could talk to the children on the topic.
- Encourage children to talk to grandparents/great grandparents about their experience and bring in anything relevant to discuss.

Starter

Ask: Why do you think that people kept chickens during the Second World War? Discuss nutritional benefits and food rationing. Explain that as a ration people could either claim eggs or grit to feed to their chicken not both.

Main Teaching Activity:

Imagine that you are a child living in 1945, to start with only some of the food had be rationed but now more rationing has taken place and food is going to be in short supply for a while. Write a letter to your local farmer, explaining that you would like to keep chickens. Explain why you would like to have them, how you will look after them and feed them, what you intend to do with the eggs and how you intend to preserve any that you have spare for use in the future. Use books and the internet to research egg preservation.

Plenary

- Encourage the children to read out their letter to the class, explain that the local farmer may not have been in charge of handing out chickens but decide if their arguments were good enough. Discuss dried egg and egg preservation.

Differentiation

Encourage weaker children to write a series of bullet points to get their points across. As an extra challenge children could investigate how egg production changed after the war- battery farms.