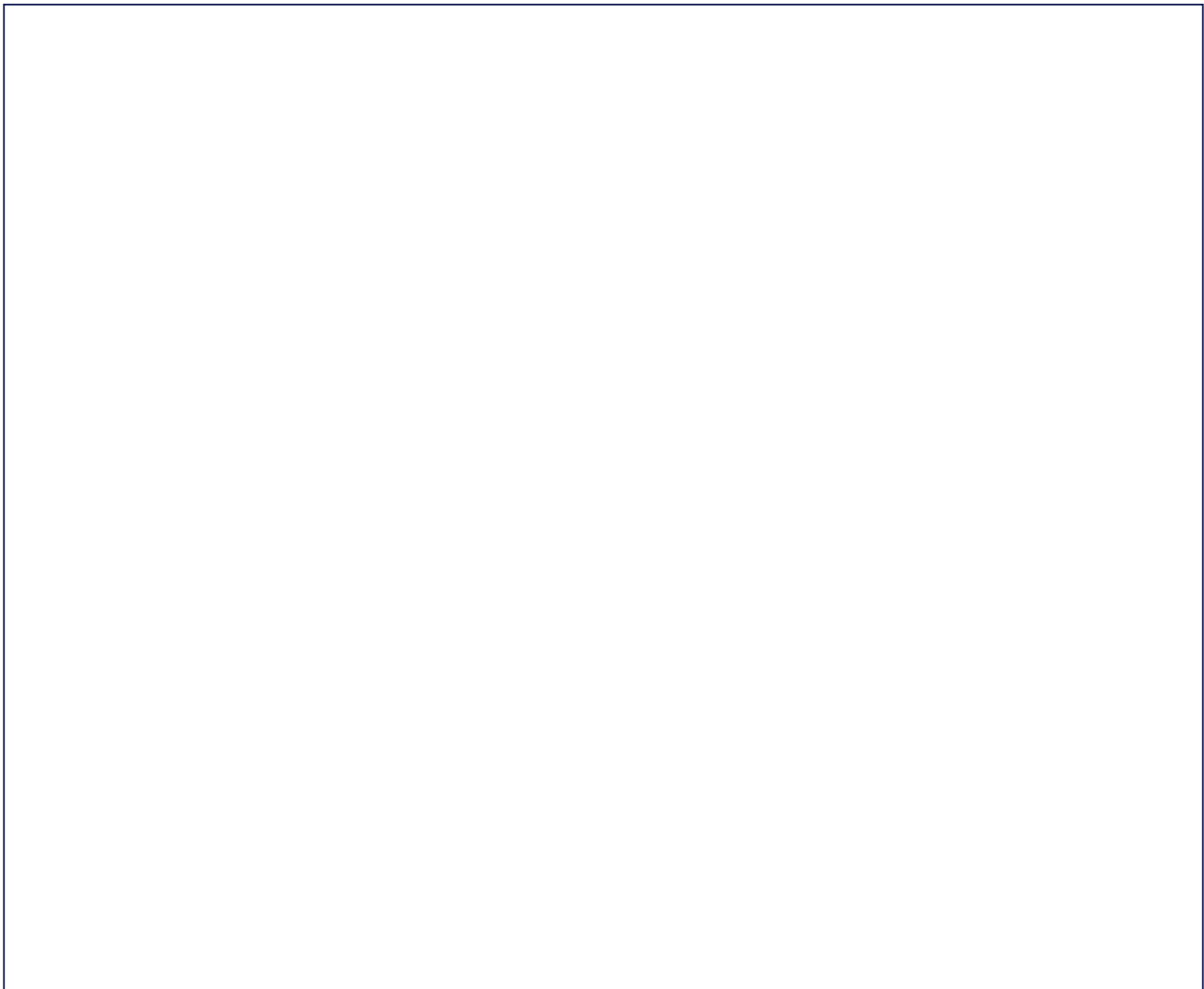


Ellie's Home Front History Sketchbook

Learning objective: To understand the visual characteristics of the British Home Front during World War Two and identify key features of civilian life.

Follow the drawing prompt below to create a detailed historical scene. Use your research skills and the word bank provided to label the key features of your illustration accurately.

Draw: Create a detailed, realistic line drawing of a 1940s British garden. The style should be clear and informative, similar to a historical diagram. In the foreground, include a child holding a small cardboard gas mask case. In the middle ground, show a corrugated iron Anderson shelter covered with a layer of earth and sandbags stacked against the house walls. In the background, depict a vegetable patch with rows of carrots and potatoes (the 'Dig for Victory' allotment). Use shading to show the texture of the metal shelter and the wooden window frames with heavy blackout curtains drawn shut.



Label words: Anderson shelter · Gas mask box · Ration book · Dig for Victory allotment · Blackout curtains · Sandbags

Steps:

1. Step 1: Draw a garden scene from the 1940s. Include an Anderson shelter partially buried in the ground and a vegetable patch nearby. Label these.

2. Step 2: Add a child character standing near the door of a house. Draw a small cardboard box with a string handle near their feet. Label this.
3. Explain why 'Dig for Victory' was an essential campaign for families living on the Home Front during the war.
4. Compare and contrast the function of an Anderson shelter with a modern-day basement. Why were they designed differently?
5. Justify your answer: Why was it crucial for civilians to use blackout curtains every single night?
6. What might happen if a family lost their ration book? Describe the impact this would have on their daily life.