

PRE- AND POST-VISIT SUGGESTIONS

Updated April 2012



ANALYSE EARLY PHOTOGRAPHS

Show the students photographs and pictures of daily life from the 1880s to 1950s. Links to galleries of early photographs are on [NSW Schoolhouse Museum website](#).

Ask the students questions such as:

- What is the photograph about?
- Where was the photograph taken?
- If you were in the photo what would you hear, smell and feel?

Use this [Analyzing Photographs Teacher's Guide](#)

STORIES FROM OBJECTS

Ask the students to bring in interesting old objects. Guide the students to observe details, hypothesise uses and question observations and thoughts.

Use this [Analyzing Primary Sources Teacher's Guide](#)

Encourage the students to share family stories associated with the object.

CLASSROOM MUSEUM

Using objects brought in by the students, and those found in the school, set up a museum display in an area of the classroom. Discuss the reasons for keeping old and precious objects and also their care.

STEP INTO THE PHOTO

Working in groups, give the students an early photo of a group of children. In costume, the students take on the pose of the students in the photo as a tableau.

On a signal the students add movement and dialogue as they imagine would have occurred just before or after the photograph was taken.

ORAL HISTORIES

Invite grandparents to share oral history relating to early life and early school days. Encourage visitors to bring objects to show the students.

AERIAL PHOTOS

Use [SIX viewer](#) to show a 1943 aerial photo of your school location and local area. Use the transparency lever to compare now to then. [SIX Lite](#) runs on PCs.

CHANGING TECHNOLOGIES ANIMATION

In groups, students create a [Slowmation](#) animation showing how a technology has changed school or daily life, eg, writing tools, duplicating, travelling to school. Students create a storyboard, gather objects needed, take their photos and create their animation.

Instructions are on the [Slowmation website](#) and a [Writing Tools animation example](#) is at (created in [iStopMotion](#) on an iPad - a very easy animation tool.)

DIGITAL STORY

Students create a digital story of childhood and schooling in the past using a combination of historic images from the Internet and photographs taken on the Schoolhouse Museum visit.

LETTER TO A FRIEND

Students write an imaginary letter recounting a typical day at school in the 1880s. The letter could include travelling to school, the lessons of the day, punishments and playground activities. It could be written with pen and ink.

LOCAL SCHOOL HISTORY

Search the school for plaques, honour boards, photographs and other evidence of your own school history. Take photographs and create a timeline of key events in your school's history.

PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE GRID

For early technologies observed at the Schoolhouse Museum and develop a grid of changes over time and predictions for the future.

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