

School days: Box Cottage

Level: Foundation–2

Curriculum focus: *Historical Knowledge*
Personal histories
Differences and similarities between students' daily lives and perspectives of life during their parents' and grandparents' childhoods, including family traditions, leisure time and communications ([VCHHK061](#))

Learning outcome: Students understand the differences and similarities between school in the past and school today, including technology, furniture and clothing.

What's included:

- Activities
- Discussion questions
- Teacher resources

Activities

Activity one

Watch the video [School Days: Box Cottage](#)

Pause and discuss the video as needed.

Discussion questions

- What things did they use in the past that we don't use today?
- Would you have liked to go to school in the past?
- What would you have liked about it?
- What would you have disliked about it?

Activity two

This photo was taken in an old classroom.

Label the differences and similarities you see between this classroom and your own.



Activity three



What is this object called?

Did people have this in the past?

If not, what do you think they used to write? Draw or write your answer.

Activity four

1. Look at these pictures of writing tools.
2. Choose the right word to fill in the gaps.



This is an _____ and a
_____.

You dip the pen in _____ and
write on _____.

ink

inkwell

paper

dip pen



This is a _____. It looks like a
small blackboard.

You write on a slate using a piece of
_____.

chalk

slate



This is a _____.

You can use one to show

_____ or _____

on a screen.

projector

images

movies



This is a _____.

You might have one in your classroom.

You write on this using a

_____.

whiteboard

marker

Activity five (excursion)

Visit Box Cottage with a teacher or trusted adult. Answer these questions.

1. Are there any interesting objects at Box Cottage?
2. Draw a picture of the interesting object.
3. What do you think the object might have been used for?
4. How is Box Cottage different or the same to your own house?

Teacher resources

Visit

Map of historic sites in the City of Glen Eira

This [map](#) shows primary schools in the City of Glen Eira along with monuments, museums, historical societies, plaques, memorials, public art, historic buildings, and sites that commemorate First Nations history. Visit our [Self-guided Walking Tours page](#) for more information and resources.



Watch

ABC: Behind the News (2018) [History of Teaching](#)

Glen Eira City Council (2022) [Alicia Cerreto - in conversation with Glen Eira Historical Society](#)

Museums of History NSW (2019) [Growing up in the Early 1900s: Going to School](#)

Learn

City of Moorabbin Historical Society (2024) [City of Moorabbin Historical Society \(Box Cottage\) Collection](#)

Glen Eira City Council (2024) [History of Our Council](#)

Glen Eira City Council (2024) [Glen Eira City Council History and Heritage Collection](#)

Glen Eira Historical Society (2024) [Glen Eira Historical Society Collection](#)

Public Records Office of Victoria & Kate Luciano (2015) [School Days: Education in Victoria](#)

Media credits

Check K D (2021) Projector screen [photograph], courtesy: Istock, identifier: 1320658267

Drew M J (c.1890 - 1900) Teacher and children in a classroom [photograph], courtesy: State Library of Victoria, identifier H2012.171/456

Unknown maker (c.19 - 20th century) Inkwell & dip pen [object], courtesy: City of Moorabbin Historical Society, identifier: 00062

Unknown maker (c. 20th century) Education kit: School Writing Slate [object], courtesy: City of Moorabbin Historical Society, identifier: 01335

Nerthuz (2018) Blank Whiteboard [photograph], courtesy: Istock, identifier: 927784174

Slav (2023) Laptop [photograph], courtesy: Istock, identifier: 1457961412