



Refresh your memories...

 Children evacuated in 1940s

 Life as an evacuee

What was life like as a child in 1940s?

I grew up in the 40s without television to distract me or scare me. News didn't travel as fast back then.

Thinking back to when I was nine, I enjoyed reading, colouring and listening to stories on the radio but that was usually for rainy days only. Every free moment we had, we begged our mums for permission to go outside to play with friends. We were taught not to speak to strangers and then set free to run with 'the pack.'

Today, most youngsters need to be coaxed outside. Unlike their grandparents' generation, they have the lure of video games and computers to captivate their imaginations and keep them wanting more of the same. My childhood gang couldn't get enough of being outdoors, free to explore.

I have wonderful memories of riding my bike and roller skating from Spring until Autumn. It mattered little if we fell and skinned our knees on the pavement. We simply spit on our fingers and used the moisture to wash the dirt off our minor wounds. Going back inside only meant less time racing up and down the pavements. Winter meant pulling your pal on a sled, sliding down snow banks and building huge snowmen (at least we thought they were huge). By the time we came in for supper, our cheeks were rosy and numb with cold, our woollen mittens soaked and hung on the radiators to dry.

Mom would wrap soggy chopped egg sandwiches in wax paper, fill an empty glass jam jar with chocolate milk and put all those goodies into a brown paper bag for each one of us. At high noon under the direct sun we trudged up the hill, scaled the huge rock (at least we thought it was huge) and sat at the top to eat our lunch.

What was life like as a child in 1940s?

Watch this video and read through the information



What did they get up to in WW2?

What games would the children play?

How was school different to now?

What was different about the food they ate?

Today I would like you to answer some questions in role as yourself as an evacuee.

How did you find the journey to your new home?

Describe the feelings you had when you were separated from your family.

How are you settling in with your new host family? How is it different to your old home?

What do you like to do in your spare time?

How will you feel when you are reunited with your family once again?