OVERVIEW

Students will explore advances made in day-to-day living within the home setting and discuss how their lives today would be different if living in one of the past settings.

STANDARDS

• Reading and Writing Standard 2: Organizing their speaking and writing, and choosing vocabulary that communicates their messages clearly and precisely.

• History Standard 4.1: Students understand the impact of scientific and technological developments on individuals and societies.

• History Standard 2.3: Students apply knowledge of the past to analyze present-day issues and events from multiple, historically objective perspectives.

OBJECTIVES

After completing this activity, students will be able to:

• Examine and evaluate photographs from the past 100 years and identify technological advances made over the past 100 years.

• Contrast and discuss how their lives would be different if living in the time of one of the photographs studied.

INQUIRY QUESTIONS

• How has life in the home changed over the last 100 years?

• What do you think has contributed to that change?

• How would your life be different if you lived during the time of one of those photographs?

• What would you be doing differently and what would you be doing the same?

MATERIALS

• Doing History/Keeping the Past CD-ROM or website; 20th Century/ Food, Clothing, Shelter/ Interiors
PROCEDURE

1. Using the “Doing History” CD-ROM disk or website, students in groups of 2 or 3 examine the photographs from the “Interiors” section of the 20th Century; Food, Clothing, Shelter section.

2. While examining the photographs, students should be answering questions such as:
   i. What modern day conveniences/appliances/toys are missing in each picture?
   ii. How would each picture be different if it were taken today?

3. After discussing these questions with all the pictures, the group should pick one picture and write a short, one page piece discussing how their lives would be different if they were living during that particular time. Pieces should discuss differences in basic home living and perhaps home recreation and chores, etc.

ASSESSMENT

Pieces should be assessed on their clarity and completeness, using specific examples of the differences that modern technology has made in the students’ present day lives.