

War Child

How did the War affect children's everyday lives?

During the war life changed for everybody, including children. For most children, the war years were a time of anxiety. For many, it was a period of family separation. For some, it was a time of profound personal loss. Many children had to grow up quickly during wartime. Many had to look after themselves and younger siblings while their mothers worked.

An Evacuation

Nearly two million children were evacuated from their homes at the start of World War Two. They were evacuated to the countryside to escape the bombing.

Children had labels attached to them, as though they were parcels. They stood at railway station not knowing where they were going nor if they would be split from brothers and sisters who had gathered with them. They felt scared about being away from their families and had to adjust to new schools and make new friends.



Rationing

Children experienced a restricted diet because of rationing.

Air Raids

Children lived in fear from the constant threat of air raids. They spent some nights living in air raid shelters just in case German planes dropped bombs on their houses. Their fears came true during the Blitz. One in ten of the deaths during the Blitz of London from 1940 to 1941 were children.

Gas Masks

The government thought that children under five would be scared of the gas masks so they produced a specially designed Micky Mouse gas mask. It was brightly coloured in red and blue.

School Life

Children had to take regular gas drills at school. They found these drills hard to take seriously, especially when they discovered blowing through the rubber made 'rude' noises.

L/O: Can I retrieve?

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1. How many children were evacuated from their homes during WWII?

2. Where were the children evacuated to?

3. Why did the children sometimes stay overnight in an air raid shelter?

4. What did the Government do to help the under fives ?

5. List three effects that the war had on children .

Restate the question.

Answer in a complete sentence.

Prove with evidence!

L/O: Can I find main idea and detail?

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1. What is the main idea of paragraph one?

2. What is the main idea of paragraph two?

3. What is the main idea of paragraph four?

4. What is the main idea of paragraph five?

5. What is the main idea of the whole page of information?

Restate the question.

Answer in a complete sentence.

Prove with evidence!

L/O: Can I understand author's choice?

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1. Find and highlight the phrase 'profound personal loss'. What does this phrase mean?

2. Find and highlight the word 'anxiety' what do you think it means?

3. Find and highlight the phrase 'adjust'. What do you think it means?

4. Find and highlight the word 'restricted'. What do you think it means?

5. Find and highlight the phrase 'their fears came true'. What do you think the author means?

Restate the question.

Answer in a complete sentence.

Prove with evidence!

