

# AIR RAID SHELTERS

## WORLD WAR TWO

# Bomb shelters



- Air raid shelters were also known as bomb shelters and were created to protect people during bomb attacks from the enemy air craft.

# Mass air raid shelters

- ▣ During the second world war, a number of underground stations were used as mass air raid shelters.
- ▣ This photo from 1940 shows people sheltering from shelling at Bounds Green.

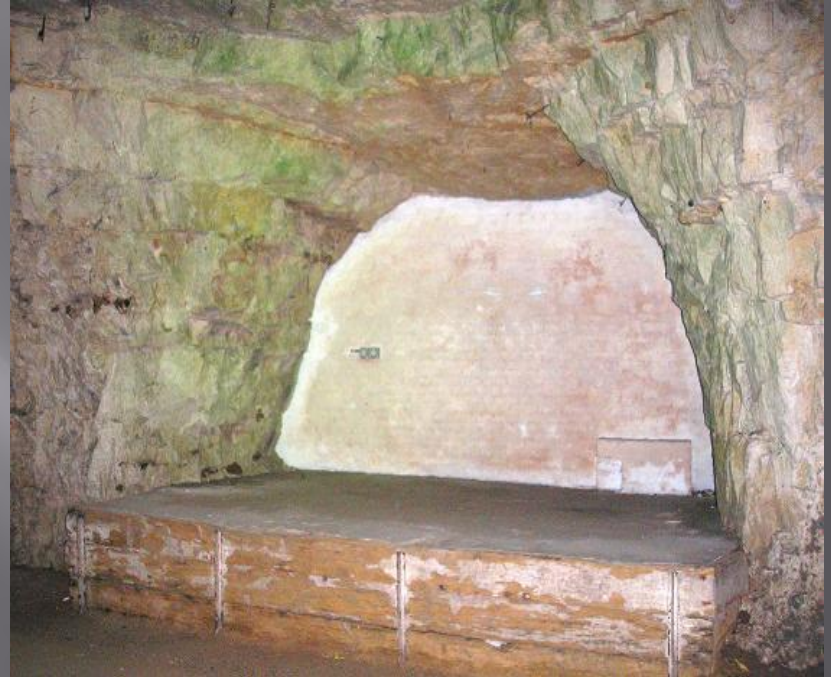


Children might continue lessons  
when they had to go into a mass  
air raid shelter!





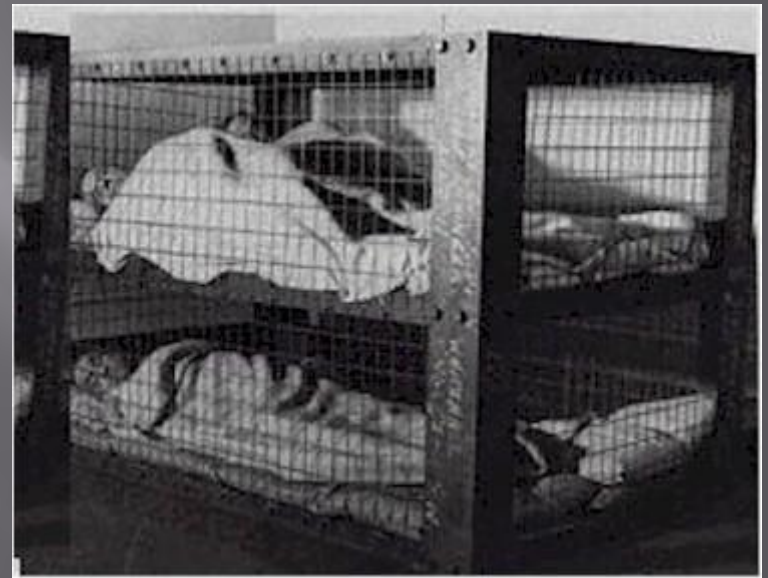
# Other shelters...



- ▣ Some buildings were used as air raid shelters such as underground stations, tunnels, cellars in houses, basements, railway arches and even caves.

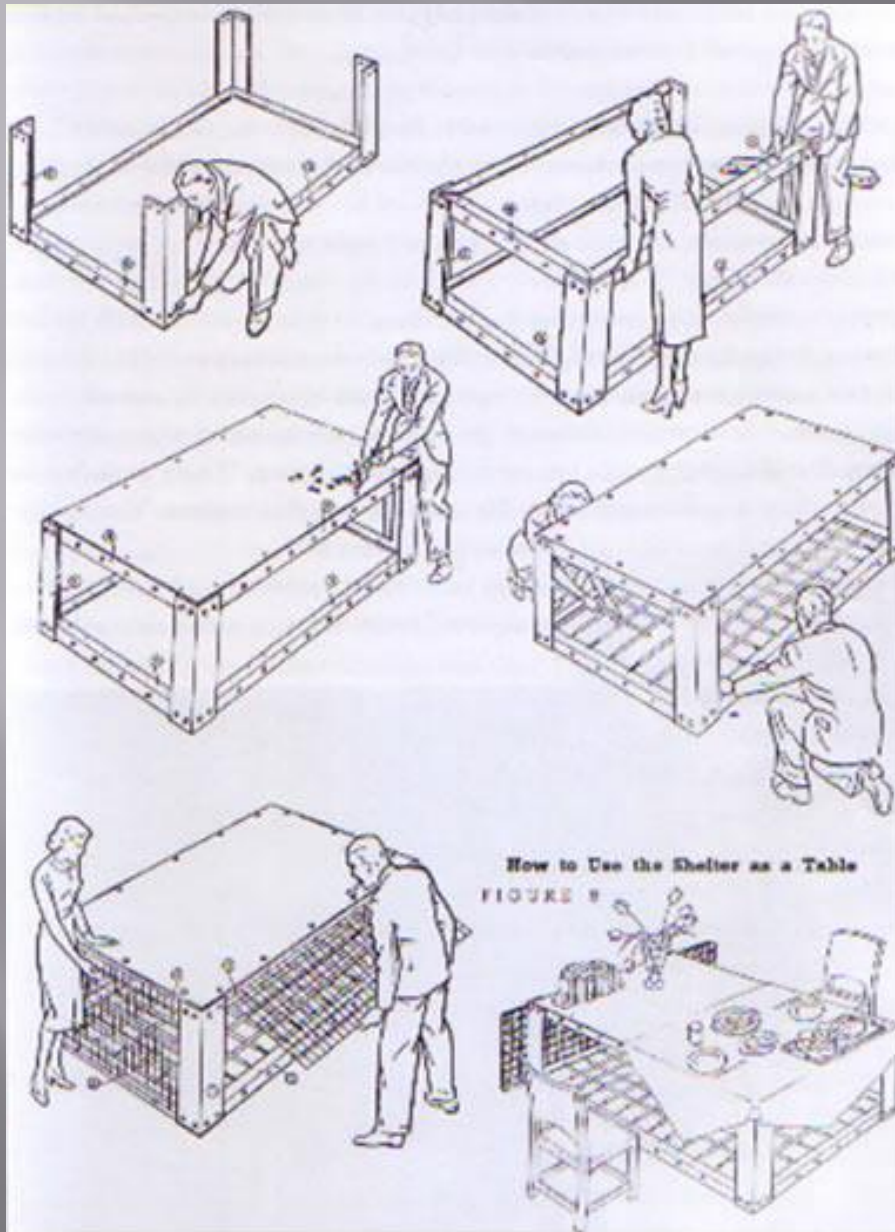
# Morrison shelters

- ▣ Another type of shelter was the Morrison shelter (named after the Minister of War, Herbert Morrison).
- ▣ These were in the form of a heavy steel dining table with steel mesh sides.
- ▣ They were designed to protect people even if their houses collapsed around them.

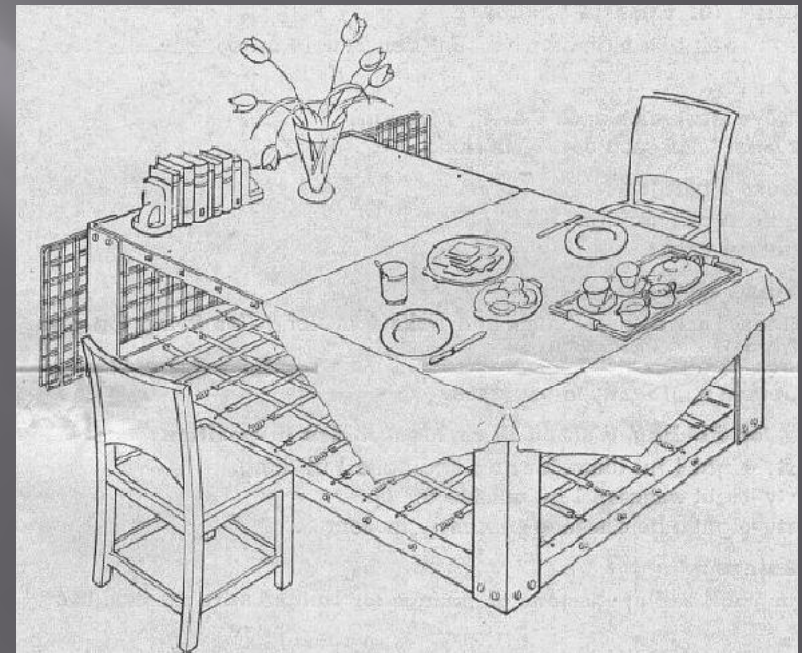




# Making up the Morrison shelter.



*Illustrations from the booklet 'How to Put up Your Morrison Shelter', issued by the Ministry of Home Security in 1941.*



# What one child said about shelters...

- ▣ At school we had shelters up beyond the tennis courts.
- ▣ They were sort of Nissen hut shaped, partly underground, and the corrugated iron roof was well sandbagged.
- ▣ Inside they had long benches along the sides to sit on.
- ▣ They smelt damp and airless and were fairly frightening, though we did go in them several times.
- ▣ Air raids were fairly frequent, as bombers used to come north from London.
- ▣ The siren was an awful, wailing sound, which struck terror in our hearts at first, though later we got quite blasé about it.
- ▣ The All Clear was a continuous, cheerful sound.



# The home made shelter.

- ▣ A commonly used home made shelter was known as the Anderson shelter which would be built with beds, in the garden to protect from air raids.

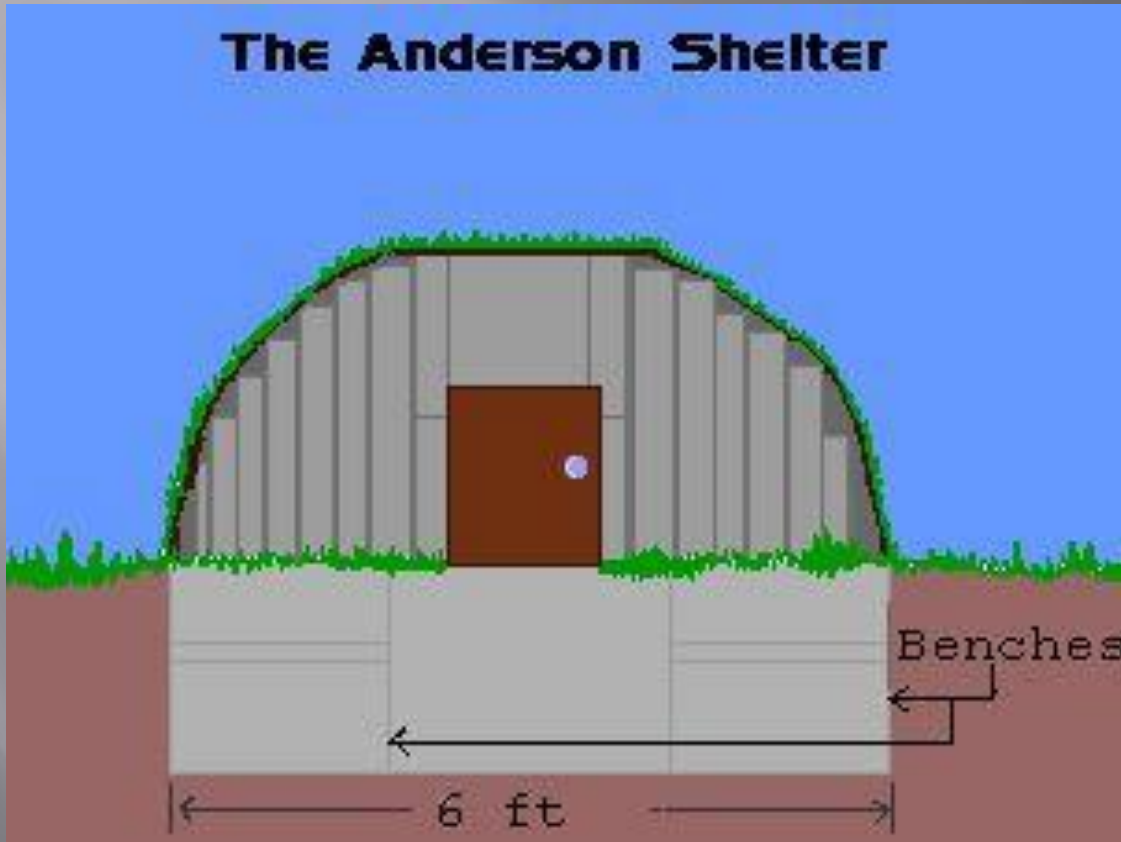


# Anderson Shelter



- ▣ This type of shelter was used by people in Britain.
- ▣ It is built of corrugated metal.
- ▣ It is green in order to camouflage it in the garden.

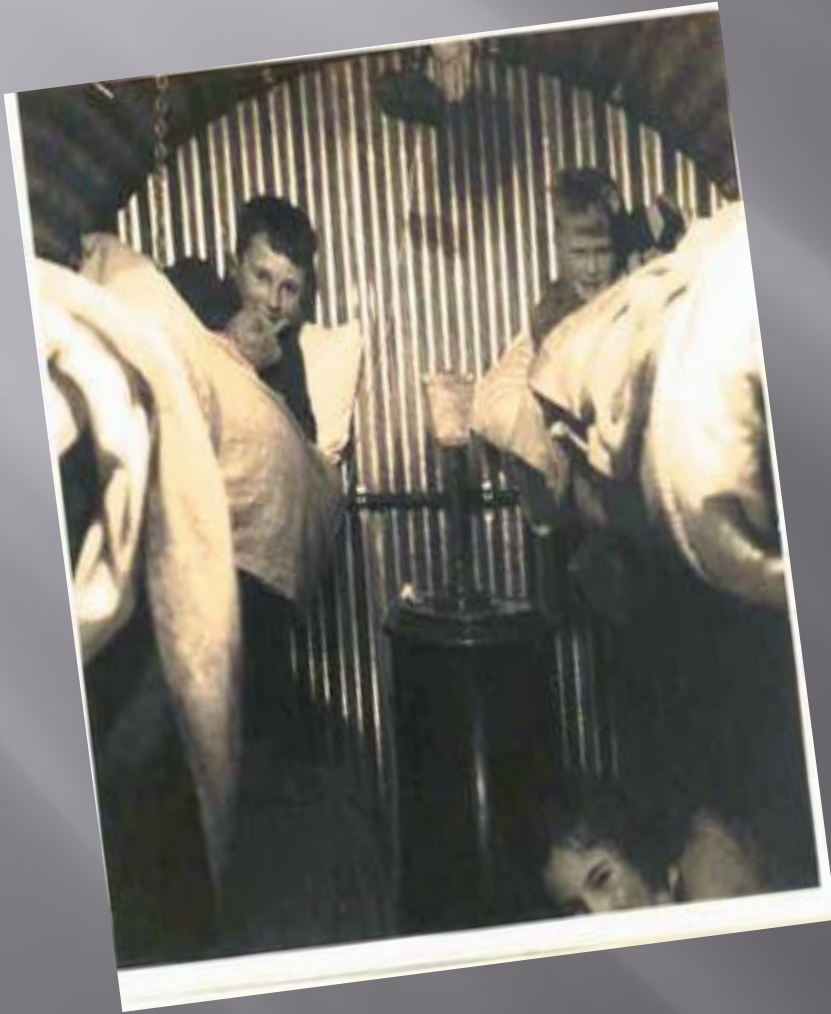
# How it was made.



- ▣ An Anderson shelter was a steel hut half in the ground and half out and the top was covered with soil and sand.



# Protection



- ▣ It would be made from 6 curved sheets of steel bolted together at the top.
- ▣ It had steel plates at both ends.
- ▣ It measured 6ft 6in by 4ft 6in (1.95m by 1.35m)
- ▣ Six people could sleep in it.
- ▣ The entrance was protected by a steel shield and earthen blast wall.
- ▣ They were given free to poor people.
- ▣ Men earning more than £5 a week could buy one for £7.
- ▣ Over 2 million families had one of these shelters in their garden during WW2.

Helping to make the shelter up -  
notice how deep it was set in the  
ground.



# Covered with soil.... Why do these shelters look different?





# Problems...



- ▣ Because they were partially buried, the shelters were prone to flooding.
- ▣ They were also cold and damp during cold weather.
- ▣ They could not protect against a direct hit by a Nazi bomb.

Grow your own....



# Going into the shelter.. What do you notice?





# Outside...and inside...



Two model Anderson shelters-  
notice some ideas they have  
used.





# Your Design Technology task.

- ▣ Draw examples of the types of shelters used in World War Two and label them.
- ▣ Think about how Anderson shelters were made.
- ▣ You are going to design and make your own Air Raid Shelter based on what you know about the real ones used in World War Two.
- ▣ Work carefully and have fun.