

ART ACTIVITY FIVE: MAKE A TRENCH

LINK TO GEOGRAPHY 2, MATHS 4, 9

Learning Objectives

- To explore how you can represent a structure in life with art;
- To practice building a 3d structure from plans and drawings.

Resources

- Shoe box
- Modeling clay
- Cardboard
- Twigs
- Thin wire
- Craft sticks/lollipop sticks
- Paints
- Variety of paint brushes

Introduction

This can be done as a whole class or small group activity, depending on the size of the trench you are making or would also be a good project homework task. If done as a whole class, students could build sections in groups.

MAIN TASKS

1. Research into how trenches were made, what their purpose was, what they looked like and what the living conditions were. You could use [Historical Context 10. Trenches](#) as a starting point.
2. If you have done **MATHS 9 Measuring a Trench**, you can plan to make your trench to scale, but you might also prefer to be more creative.
3. First sketch the shape of your trench, thinking about its purpose for fortifications as well as how soldiers made it into as much of a home as they were able. Think about how you are going to construct it and what materials you will use and include notes in your sketch.
4. Build your trench adding as much detail as you are able to make it as realistic as you can. You might want to build one inside a shoebox so you have a built in structure (have a look at this site, [making a trench](#), to get a good idea of how to do this), or mold it out of clay. How will you make sandbags? Think about how soldiers started to hang items on the wall.