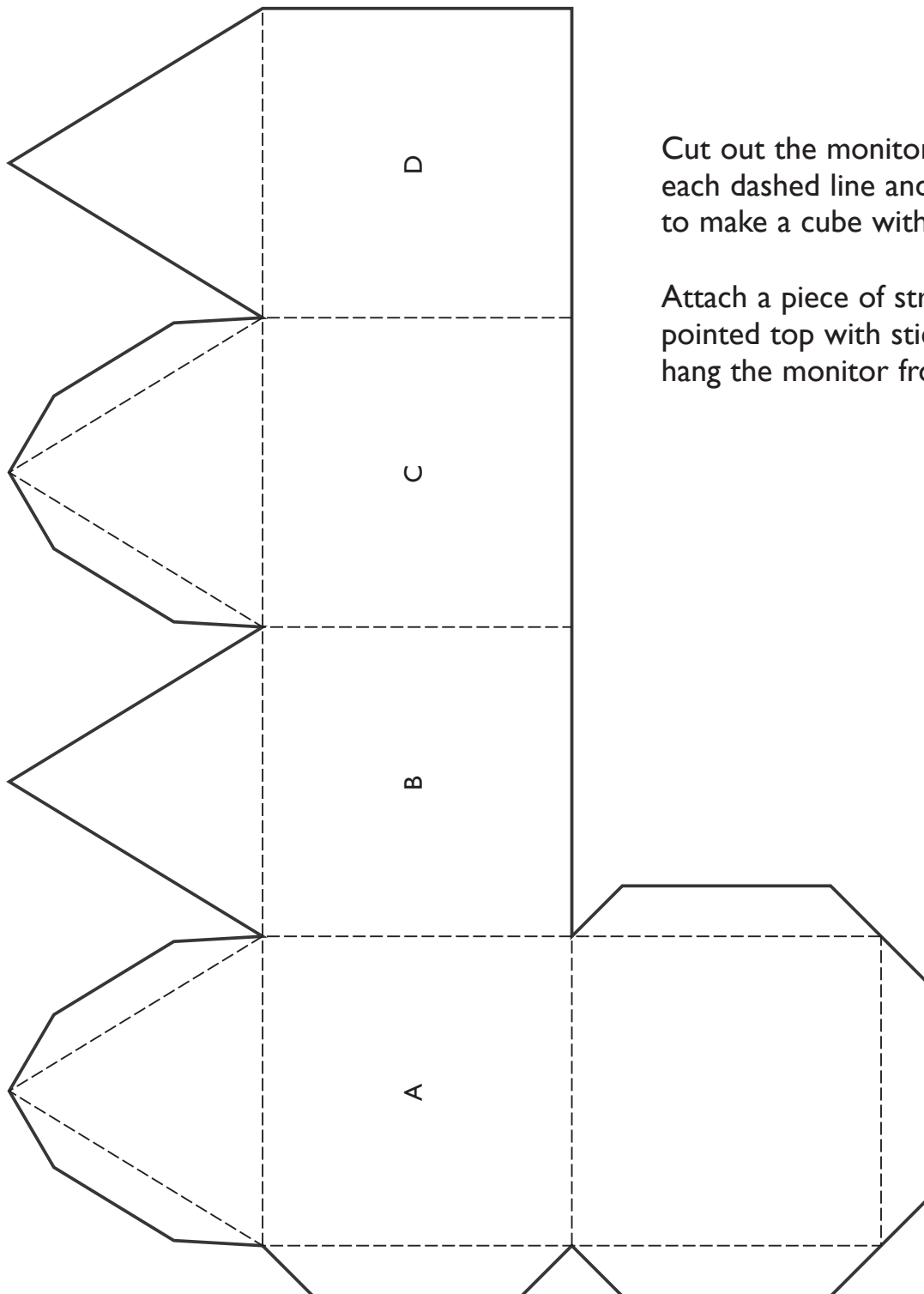


# Owen's monitor

Colour in each section as follows. Leave A as white, colour B yellow, colour C blue and colour D black.



Cut out the monitor, fold along each dashed line and glue the tabs to make a cube with a pointed top.

Attach a piece of string to the pointed top with sticky paper and hang the monitor from your chair.

# Teacher's sheet

Based on **pages 12 and 13** of *How life changed in Victorian times*

## Owen's monitor

### Age range

- Years 3/4 (SP4/5).
- Years 5/6 (SP6/7).

### Resources

Copies of the worksheet. Blue, yellow and black pencils or felt tips, scissors, sticky paper, string.

### Using the worksheet

In activity **3A** mention was made of a child being beaten for sleeping. Corporal punishment was widespread in mills. It was meant to be an incentive for children to behave well. Robert Owen decided that children should be encouraged to work well without being beaten and so he introduced the monitor. This was a coloured wooden block which was hung from their machines. The side facing outwards from the machine displayed the conduct of the child. White was excellent, yellow was good, blue was neither good nor bad, black was 'excessive naughtiness'. The supervisor (or overlooker) judged the child's conduct and turned the monitor to display an appropriate colour.

When your students have made the monitor they can hang it from their chairs. You can then go round and turn the monitor to the appropriate colour as they continue with their work. You may ask the students how they feel about their conduct being assessed in this way. You may ask them how they think Victorian mill children may have liked the idea of a monitor (which, of course, they preferred to a beating).

### Younger students

Some of the students may need help in assembling the monitor.

### Outcomes

The students can:

- Make a simple model.
- Appreciate how workers could be encouraged to work without being beaten.

### Older students

The students may like to perform a simple task from a craft lesson – sewing, perhaps, and you or one of them act as a supervisor.

### Outcomes

The students can:

- Make a simple model.
- Appreciate how workers could be encouraged to work without being beaten.