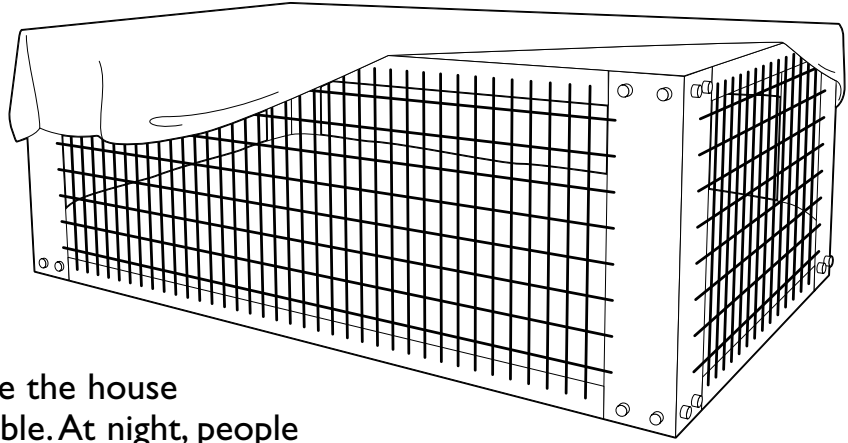


A Morrison shelter

Build a full-size model of a Morrison shelter.

The Morrison shelter was designed to be used by people who did not have a garden. The shelter went inside the house and could also be used as a table. At night, people sometimes slept in their shelter. The Morrison shelter was 6 feet 6 inches (2m) long, 4 feet (1.2m) wide and 2 feet 6 inches (0.75m) high. It made of steel, but you can see what it was like to be inside one by making a full-size model of a shelter out of a table and blankets.



What you will need: A table that is about 6 feet long and 4 feet wide. It should be at least 2 feet high. About four blankets. Gaffer (duct) tape.

Use the gaffer tape to tape the blankets to the table. They should hang down almost to the floor. Leave some gaps between the blankets to let in light and air.

Now, climb inside your shelter. Try sitting in your shelter with two or three other people. Once you have spent a few minutes in your shelter, answer the following questions.

1. How much room did you have to move around in the shelter? How do you think it would feel to spend 4 or 5 hours or all night in your shelter?



.....

2. How well would your shelter protect you if the roof fell in?



.....

3. How easy would it be to get out of your shelter if there was a fire?



.....

4. Describe what it is like in your shelter. Include observations about how easily you can move around and how you would keep yourself from getting bored in such a small space.

Teacher's sheet

Based on **pages 22 and 23** of *Children in the Second World War*

A Morrison shelter

Age range

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

Resources

Copies of the worksheet. Table, tape measure, gaffer tape or masking tape, sheets or blankets.

Using the worksheet

This is a chance for students to experience a little of what it was like to be in a Morrison shelter. Here we use blankets instead of wire to make a safer shelter.

Students should never be left alone in the shelter and you will probably need to supervise this activity quite closely to make sure it meets your school's health and safety regulations.

You may like to discuss with the students how this shelter would differ from a real Morrison shelter, which would be lighter but harder to get out of quickly.

Younger students

Students can work together to make the shelter and try it out. Students can answer questions 1–3 as a class activity or discussion.

Outcomes

The students can:

- Follow instructions to construct a model of a shelter.
- Understand how a Morrison shelter was constructed and how it would protect people.
- Understand a little of what it was like to be in a Morrison shelter.

Older students

You may want the students to work in small groups to build the shelters. Students can answer the questions on their own. Some students may want to build scale models of Morrison shelters out of card or other materials.

Outcomes

The students can:

- Follow instructions to construct a model of a shelter.
- Understand how a Morrison shelter was constructed and how it would protect people.
- Understand a little of what it was like to be in a Morrison shelter.