

TEMPORARY THINGS

An Introduction to Ephemera

Teacher's Guide: This resource uses items from the NLI collection to explore ephemera—what it is, historical examples, and how students encounter it in their daily lives.

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Ephemera is all around us whether we process it as such or not. These can relay a surprising amount of information. When something temporary is kept and preserved, we can understand more about the motivations and interests of the person. A train ticket stub from 70 years ago can provide information about inflation. Political posters give context about popular references and opinions surrounding a topic of election.

At the primary age, lessons on ephemera bring history closer. Students are able to see the broader picture of what they can learn from everyday objects and how daily lives contribute to their studies.

Primary: History

Strands

- o Local studies
- o Eras of change and conflict
- o Politics, conflict and society
- o Continuity and change over time

Working as a Historian

- o Using evidence—examine a range of simple historical evidence
- o Synthesis and Communication

Third and Fourth Classes: Topics

- o Life in the 19th Century
- o Continuity and Change— Communications

Fifth and Sixth Classes: Topics

- Language and culture in the late 19th and early 20th century Ireland
- o World War I
- o 1916 and the foundation of the state
- o Communications

