

School Days: Life Changes Trust, Activity Pack



Introduction: School Days

Today we are going to think about experiences of school.

We will ask each other questions about our own school days, learn some facts about Scottish schools in Victorian times and look at images of a very special school built in Glasgow in 1906.

You can complete all three sections or choose to focus on single activities.

We have included activities for you to complete on your own or in a group.

If you are facilitating a group session you may wish to project or cast this document to a larger screen.

For some activities you will need scissors, a glue-stick, recycled cardboard, string and print-outs included in this pack.

Section One: Your School Days (Memory Activity)

You can think about the following questions alone or ask them in a group and share the answers.

- What was the name of your primary school?
- What was the name of your favourite teacher?
- What lesson did you like most and least?
- Can you remember the names of your friends?
- Did you have to wear a uniform? What colour was it? Did it have a logo or coat of arms?

Section Two: Scottish Schools

Since 1872 it has been mandatory in Scotland for children to attend primary school, between the ages of 5 to 14.



Handwriting (Coordination Activity)

Victorian school children had to learn special handwriting called Copperplate.

Use the example on the following page to practice your own Copperplate handwriting. You will find additional sheets of writing paper at the end of this activity pack.

If you have internet access you can also practice your handwriting with a lesson from our Victorian school teacher, Miss Crabbit. Please click on the link below or scan the QR code.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_gqU7O5o0P0&list=PLnvAY5-cyQYxOYY8VWlpcTqGSJYLfkap&index=16



The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog.

1234567890

Drill (Physical Activity)

Victorian school children were expected to practice Drill every morning. Drill was based on the physical exercises used in army training.

Practise some Drill by:

- Marching on the spot for sixty seconds.
- Bending to touch your toes, three times.
- Turning from side to side with your hands on your hips, three times.
- Raising your arms in the air and to your sides, three times

Look at the historical photograph on the following page to see pupils practising Drill.



Arithmetic (Memory/Problem Solving Activity)

Victorian classrooms would usually accommodate sixty pupils. How many children were in your class?

Pupils would learn by 'Rote' which meant they would listen to the teacher, memorise the lesson and repeat it back.

Can you remember and repeat back the following Victorian money table? If you can remember them individually, see if you can remember them all together!

- Two farthings equal one halfpenny.
- Two halfpennies equal one penny.
- Twelve pennies equal one shilling.
- Twenty shillings equal one pound.
- Twenty-one shillings equal one guinea.

If you have internet access you can practice your arithmetic with a lesson from our Victorian school teacher, Miss Crabbit. Please click on the link below or scan the QR code.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nb5tHF5L7Zc&list=PLnvAY5-cyQYxOYY8VWlpcTqGSJYLFfkap&index=6>



Cookery Room (Observation Activity)

Victorian girls were expected to learn about cookery and cleaning at school.

Compare the two photographs on the following pages. Both are photographs of the Cookery Room at Scotland Street School in Glasgow, but were taken 100 years apart.

How many similarities and differences can you spot in the two photographs?





Punishment (Memory/Coordination Activity)

Victorian teachers had cruel punishments for naughty pupils.

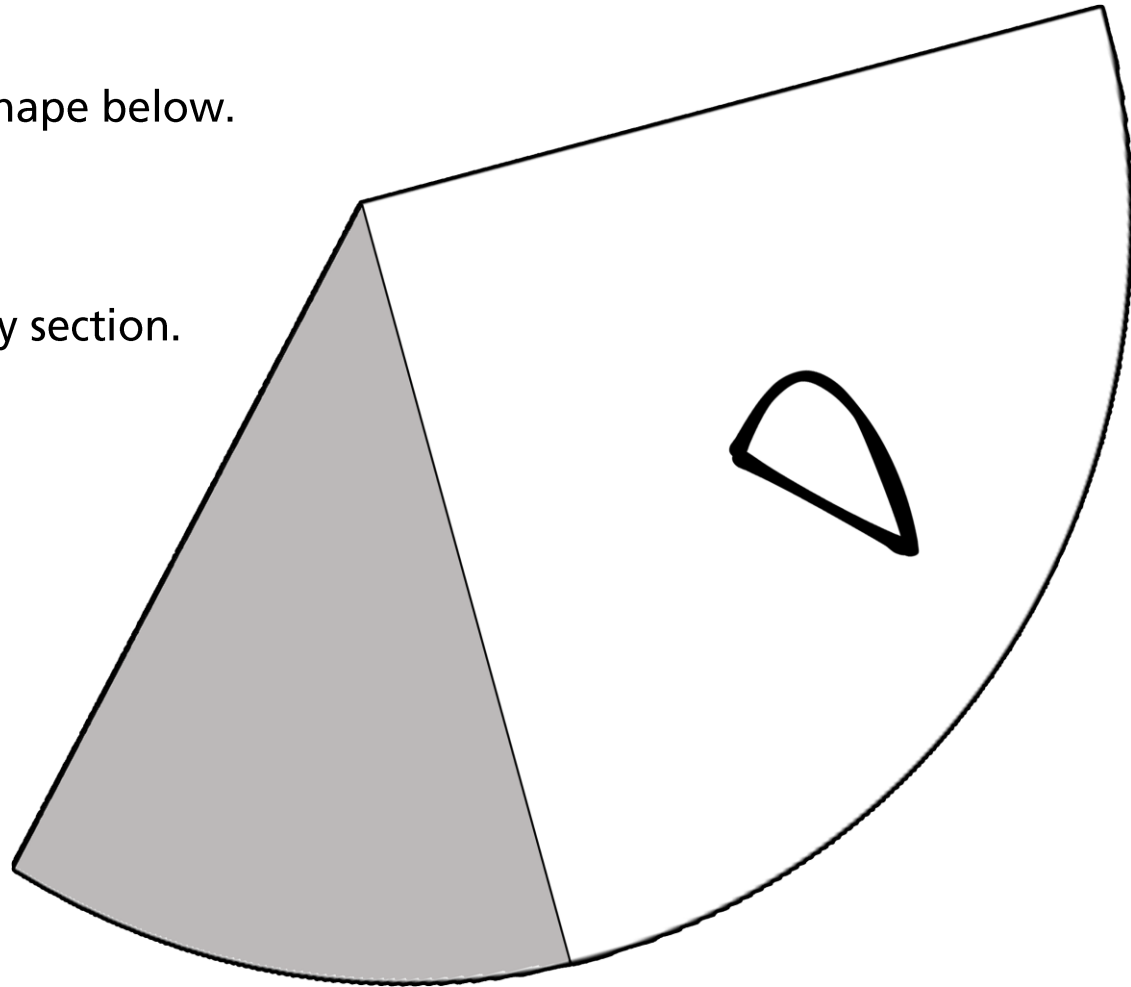
Were you well behaved or can you remember getting in trouble? What did you do and what was the punishment?

The 'Dunces Cap' was a popular punishment for pupils with messy handwriting or who had incorrect answers to the teachers' questions.

Use the template on the following page to make your own mini-Dunces Cap.

How long can you balance it on your head?

1. Cut out the whole shape below.
2. Roll into a cone.
3. Put glue on the grey section.
4. Fix cone in place.



Section Three: Scotland Street School

Scotland Street School is a primary school in Glasgow designed by Charles Rennie Mackintosh.

Charles Rennie Mackintosh is a famous Glaswegian architect and artist. He lived between 1868 to 1928.

Have you visited any other buildings designed by Charles Rennie Mackintosh?



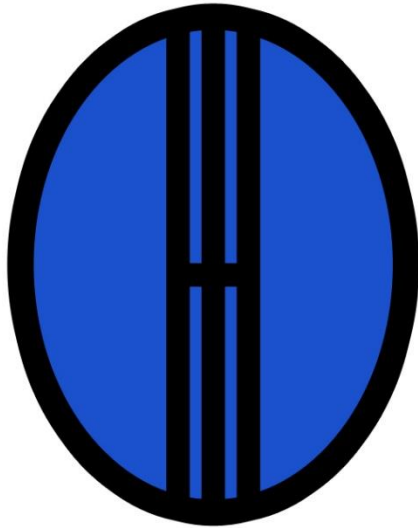
Symbols (Problem Solving Activity)

Charles Rennie Mackintosh used abstract symbols in his work, often inspired by shapes from nature.

Look at the three symbols on the next page. Use the clues to work out what shapes from nature inspired them. Answers can be found on the final page of this document.

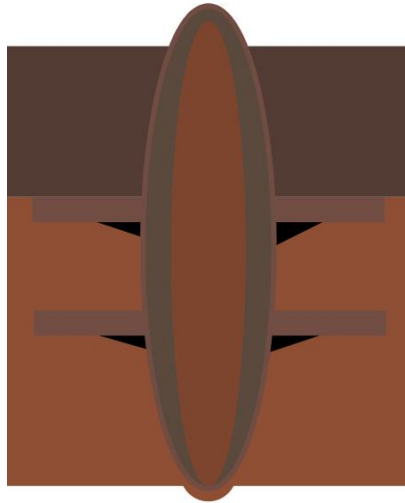
The three symbols are all used by Charles Rennie Mackintosh in his design for Scotland Street School.

What do you think Charles Rennie Mackintosh was trying to say about education and childhood?



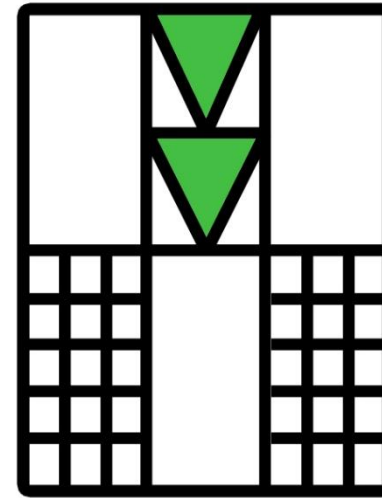
Under the ground,
ready to change.

I am a _____.



Peeping above the surface,
poking through soil.

I am a _____.



Tall and in full bloom,
dressed in green.

I am a _____.

Whirligig (Coordination Activity)

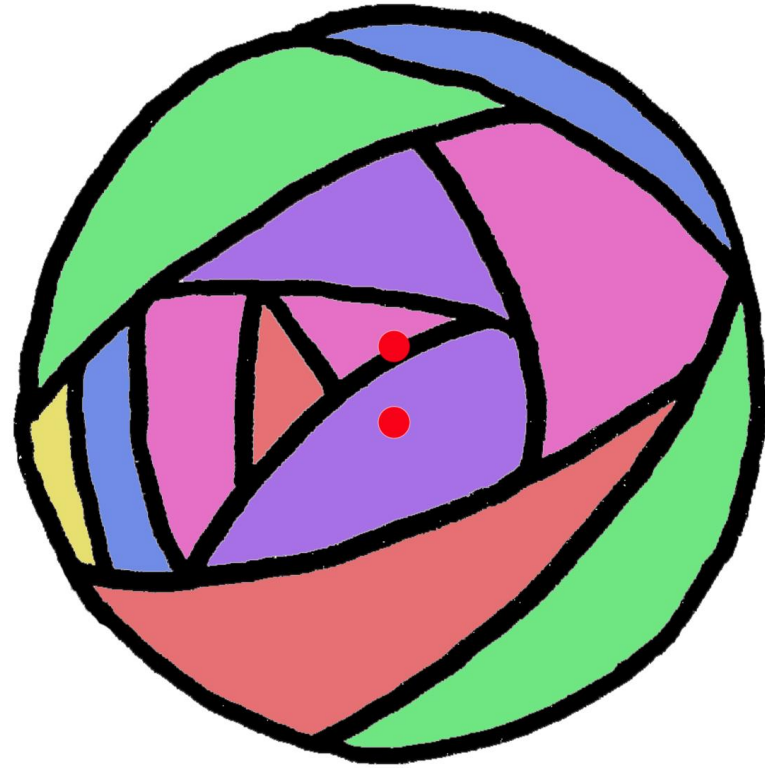
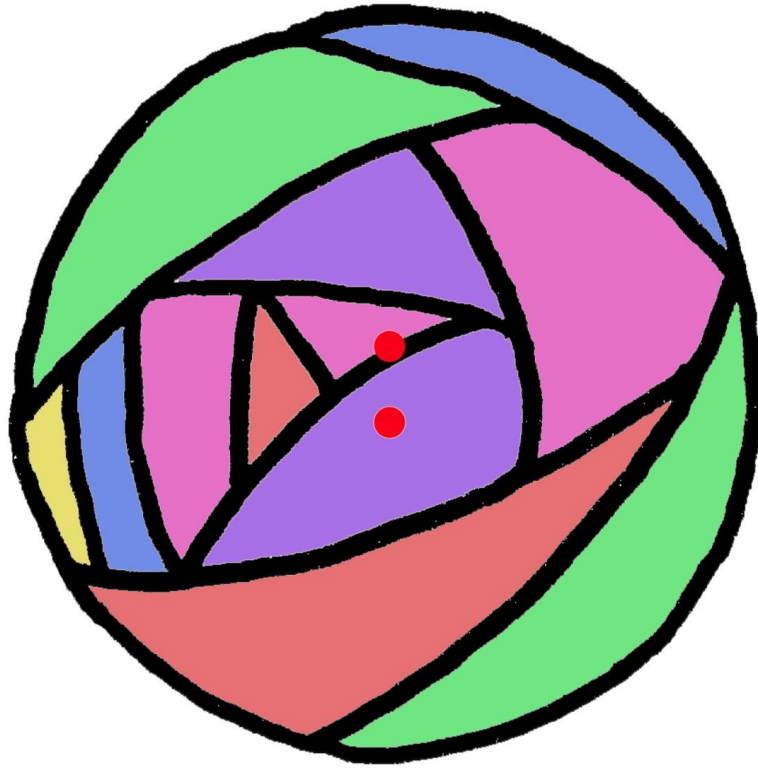
The best-known Charles Rennie Mackintosh design is based on a rose.

Have you seen this before?

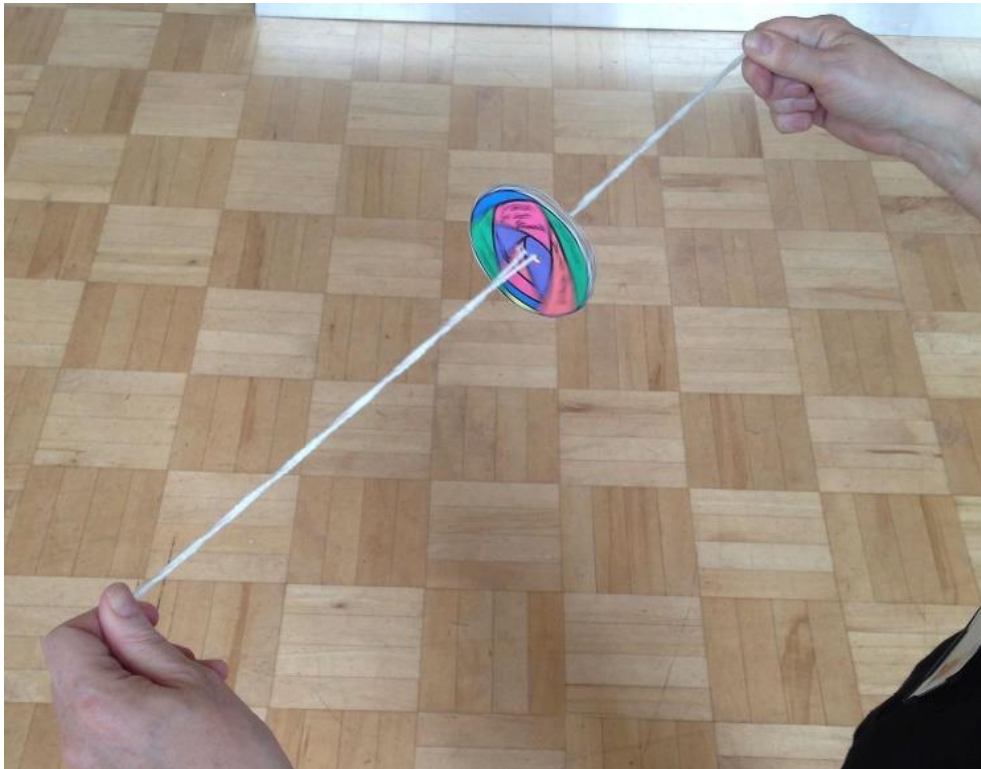
Use the template on this page to make a Mackintosh rose 'Whirligig'.

Whirligigs were popular playground toys for Victorian children.

1. Cut out the two colourful 'roses' and glue them to a piece of cardboard
2. Cut around the 'roses' on the cardboard and glue them back to back.
3. Use a pencil point to poke two holes through the 'roses' where the red dots are.
4. Feed a long piece of string through the two holes and tie the ends together



5. Hold either end of the string loop and 'wind up' the whirligig.
6. Pull the string from either side to start the whirligig spinning.



More Memories

Have these activities helped you remember any other school memories?

If you have access to the internet you can watch a short film of former pupils from Scotland Street School discussing their own memories at the 2013 school reunion.

Please click here to watch the short film from the Scotland Street School reunion in 2013. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gd1U3pHdvb8> or scan the QR code.



Wordsearch (Language Activity)

Can you find the words listed to the right? Do you know what they mean?

A	E	I	R	E	E	P	D	N	A	P	I	H	W	B
E	I	M	Q	U	G	B	U	T	T	E	R	P	A	T
C	R	M	A	C	K	I	N	T	O	S	H	B	V	R
A	J	G	G	I	R	D	A	N	D	C	L	E	E	K
E	I	A	I	M	D	N	S	U	B	W	A	Y	J	F
D	Q	S	N	A	L	V	R	R	E	T	T	O	J	R
N	E	M	K	N	E	E	J	S	E	T	A	L	S	O
U	I	A	W	M	I	S	R	E	L	N	F	B	L	R
O	D	S	E	Q	T	E	L	E	R	P	L	O	Y	A
R	I	K	L	K	H	T	B	C	H	D	B	P	L	I
G	E	K	L	C	T	E	H	N	T	A	H	D	Y	L
Y	H	S	A	E	L	A	I	U	I	T	P	L	H	W
A	G	E	K	L	L	K	O	D	U	S	T	E	R	A
L	T	D	C	K	S	G	T	G	I	R	D	L	E	Y
P	E	E	V	E	R	G	I	G	I	L	R	I	H	W

WHIP AND PEERIE • DIABLO

GIRD AND CLEEK • PEEVER

WHIRLIGIG • DUSTER • DESK • SLATE

INK WELL • BUTTER PAT • GIRDLE

KETTLE • PLAYGROUND • BELL

GAS MASK • BELT • JOTTER • HEIDIE

NURSE • DUNCE • TEACHERS

JANNIE • CR MACKINTOSH

Spare Writing Paper

The image shows ten sets of horizontal and diagonal blue lines, designed for handwriting practice. Each set consists of a solid top line, a solid bottom line, and a series of diagonal lines in between, creating a grid-like structure for letter formation.

Glossary

Whip and Peerie – a wooden spinning top with string whip

Diablo – a juggling toy comprised of a spinning axel balanced on strings

Gird and Cleek – a metal toy comprised of a hand-held hook attached to a hoop

Peever – a stone or tin thrown during a game of hopscotch

Whirligig – a hand held spinning toy

Butter Pat – a flat wooden utensil for shaping butter

Girdle – a flat, hanging pan for cooking scones, potato cakes or pancakes

Slate – a small, flat piece of dark rock in wooden frame to practice handwriting

Ink Well – a small ceramic container for writing ink

Jotter – a notebook

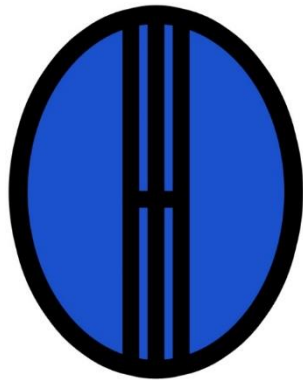
Heedie – the Head teacher of a school

Dunce – a derogatory term applied to failing students

Jannie – the Janitor or Caretaker of a school

CR Mackintosh – Charles Rennie Mackintosh, a Glaswegian artist and architect

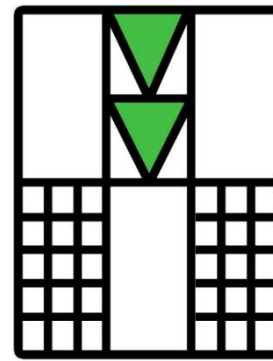
Answers to 'Symbols' section



SEED



SHOOT



TREE