**Best Views from the House Activity**

**Activity outline:**

This activity is intended as part of a wider offer of activities as a way of talking to children about designed views. It is a discussion-based activity. The method below is not intended to be used as a script, as yours will vary depending on the site and archive material but is a set of prompts to help keep your tone age appropriate.

**Equipment and materials:**

* Laminated archive illustrations of historic view of and from house, in A3 size minimum.

Cost: c £20 for 30 children, depending on the quantity of illustrations.

**Method:**

* Gather the children at the location from which your archive view is recorded, ideally from the house.
* Remember to speak loudly and clearly.
* Remember not to talk at the children for a prolonged period, but rather to intersperse with questions for the children to consider, and opportunities for them to pose questions.
* Introduce yourself.
* “We are going to be learning a little bit about the kind of views that rich people liked to have from their houses in the past.”
* “First of all, I’m interested to know what you see when you look out of your bedroom window?” Ask for show of hands and choose a few children to answer.
* “Here at [SITE NAME], the view from the house was [DESCRIBE AND SHOW ARCHIVE ILLUSTRATION IF YOU HAVE ONE].
* “What do you think of it? Would you like a view like that from your house? What do you like and what don’t you like?” Ask for show of hands and choose a few children to give answers.
* “What about the view looks the same today? What looks different?” Ask for show of hands and choose a few children to give answers.
* Show pictures of site before and after design intervention (a plan would be fine if you can help explain it). Here’s what the view looked like before [DESIGNER NAME] worked on it, and here’s what it looked like after. What differences can you spot?” Ask for show of hands and choose a few children to give answers.
* “Which do you prefer, the view before or after?” Ask for show of hands and choose a few children to give answers.

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