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Role-play in Heritage Park

These role-plays are set in selected heritage buildings and the education centre. They are designed to be an interesting and fun way of using the displays, allowing students to empathise with the period they are studying. Role-play is carried out in costume and involves using tools and artefacts from the handling collection.

Rise and Shine (allow 2-2½ hours)

Your class will discover what an early 20th Century home would have looked like and help put the correct objects in the right rooms. Travel back in time and meet Myra Carter, housekeeper to the Clarke family. She will set your class a number of tasks to see if you would make a good domestic servant! Your class can roll up their sleeves and try bread, butter or candle making. Then have some more fun with traditional games or past-times!

School Days at Riponui Pah (allow 2-2½ hours)

What was it like to go to school a hundred years ago? Step into our classroom and back in time. Take your seats for lessons with Miss Edith Jackson and staff. Your class can try writing on the blackboard, sit at the old desks and use pencils/dip pens to try handwriting old style. Find out what horrible punishments there were! When the school day is over, enjoy games on the village green.

Washday Blues with the Clarke Family (allow 2-2½ hours)

You're never too young to work but do you have what it takes to be an early Victorian settler in New Zealand? Travel back in time and find out how things were done in an age without electricity. Then roll up your sleeves and get on with the washing! When the work is done, you can relax and enjoy yourself with traditional Victorian entertainments.

Wedding Belles at the Clarke House (allow 2-2½ hours)

Your class is invited to the wedding of the year in Whangarei (The year in question being 1906!). Find out about festival celebrations from long ago, and near and far, who wore what colours, customs and traditions across cultures. Your class can make their own wedding invitations and sample wedding food from different countries. Try traditional wedding dances, games, and learn how people use flowers to send secret messages!

We'll meet again (allow 2 -2½ hours)

How did it feel to be evacuated during WWII? If you had to leave your home, what would YOU take with you? Explore the suitcases of four different local people and find out what was important to them. Visit the Clarke house and find out how they were affected by war. Your class can make their own evacuee label and papers and plot the ships and aircraft moving across the Pacific.

This programme is intended to support the Anne Frank Exhibition which you may also wish to visit (allow an extra 1-1 ½ hours).

Want to make a day of it?

Learning is such fun at the Museum and Kiwi House at Heritage Park! Bring a picnic lunch and stay for the day. Explore the Museum, take the Heritage Park Tour or visit the kiwi house. For a small additional charge, you could take a train ride into Millington Bush or on the miniature railway or some other vintage transport experience (*these must be pre-booked and are subject to availability- please ask the Educator for details*).