

**SM&AG** SHREWSBURY MUSEUM & ART GALLERY



# MINDFUL MUSEUMS

EDWARDIAN CHILDREN'S BOOTS

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# EDWARDIAN CHILDREN'S BOOTS

**Art Activity** – how do you respond to this object from the collection of Shropshire Museums? Start by watching the Mindful Museum video on the [Edwardian Children's Boots](#).

Think of some words that are prompted by looking at the pair of Edwardian Children's Boots. Here are some to start with – **leather, black, worn, lacings**

## Favourite footwear

Take a look at the shoes and boots you own. Do you have a favourite pair?

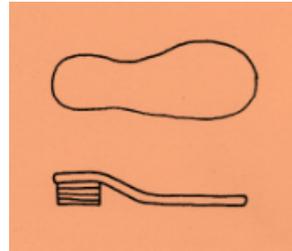


Have some fun sketching your footwear in whatever art materials you have to hand. Try sketching the shoes or boots from a variety of different angles. The older and more well-worn the shoe the better, as there will be interesting creases and bumps in the shape.

If you have a pair of shoes that you don't mind sticking tape to, then you could experiment modifying them but adding shapes cut out of card, adding other materials, e.g. ribbons, bows or even feathers. Let your imagination go wild!

## Best foot forward

The earliest type of shoe were basically pieces of leather tied around the foot and then progressed to cut leather held together with leather thongs. Even with more modern creations that are stitched together, the design always starts with the shape of the foot.



So, using your own foot as a last or mould, stand on a piece of card and draw around your foot. Cut the sole shape out. Wallpaper off-cuts are great for constructing model shoes as it tends to be quite flexible and resilient, but any heavy-weight paper will work.



Now have a go at working out how to make the paper cover your foot. How will you fix the paper to the sole (and don't forget you have to be able to put the shoe on and take it off again)? Think about zips, buckles, Velcro or laces.

Consider whether you want to add a heel, how high it will be and what shape? Heels have traditionally been carved from a piece of wood or made from gluing several layers of leather together. You can replicate this by using some scrap card shapes or glue layers of thick card.

How you decorate the shoe is up to you. Maybe it will have some lacings to allow it to be fitted onto the foot, or some decorative stitching. Try stitching edgings and patterns with coloured embroidery threads. Maybe just cover in sequins and glitter.



## We'd love to see your work.

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