

World War 2 National Salvage Campaign

Turning useless items into weapons of war

In 1939 the National Salvage Campaign was launched by the Ministry of Supply asking the British people to recycle “useless” objects and so they could be turned them into “useful” weapons to help fight the war.

Recycling became very important during World War 2 because of:

- Attacks on British and Allied supply ships meant that Britain had to become more self-sufficient
- Recycling at home meant more resources could be used at the warfront
- Recycling helped people to feel they were helping contribute to the war efforts and show their patriotism.

Draw a line to link up what items were recycled into for the war effort:



Paper was recycled into ...

Glue for aircraft
Glycerine for explosives
Fertilizer



Steel food cans were recycled into ...

Targets for range practice
Parts for bombs
Cartridge wads



Boiled bones were recycled into ...

Tanks
Ships
Planes
Bombs
Gun parts



Answers: Paper was recycled into targets for range practice, parts for bombs and shells and cartridge wads, Boiled bones were recycled into glue for aircraft, glycerine for explosives and fertilizer, Steel food cans were recycled into tanks, ships, planes, bombs and gun parts