Seaside 5 – On the water

Learning Objectives

- Learn about the different kinds of pleasure boats and other craft used in seaside resorts from the early 1910s to the 1980s.
- Develop children's research skills in interpreting historical images, in particular with a view to recognising which are older and which are more recent.

Sources

Source 1. Paddle steamer at Worthing pier, c1910

Source 2. Boats on the beach, Worthing, c1910

Source 3. Regatta on the River Adur, Shoreham-by-Sea, c1912

Source 4. Woman rides an inflatable horse, Worthing, 1930

Source 5. Boys in an inflatable boat, Bognor Regis, c1950

Source 6. A family with a boat, Shoreham Beach, c1960

Source 7. Motor-boat on the sea, Shoreham Beach, c1972
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Source 8. Pedalos on the sea, Worthing, c1958

Source 9. Boating on the sea, Littlehampton, c1975

Source 10. Boating on the pool, Worthing, c1972

Source 11. Windsurfing at Worthing beach, c1984

Source 12. Boats and windsurfers at Worthing beach, c1984

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**Source 1**

By the late 19th century, many piers had landing stages. These were used by paddle steamers cruising between the different coastal resorts - a popular outing for holidaymakers.

**Source 2**

Trips in rowing boats and sailing boats were also popular from the early days of the seaside resorts. Local fishermen would supplement their income by taking holidaymakers out on the sea.

**Source 3**

Towns such as Shoreham held annual regattas featuring a full programme of rowing races. Similar competitions are still held every year by local rowing clubs, including Worthing rowing club.

**Sources 4 to 12**

Playing on the water in boats has long been a favourite pastime enjoyed by visitors to the seaside. These pictures show some of the different kinds of craft used in local resorts from the 1930s on.