

## Wartime Writing Prompts

### Inspired by Jo Cooper's Stories from the Isle of Wight

Encourage children to explore history through imagination, empathy, and creativity.

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#### 1. "A Letter from the Evacuee"

Imagine you've just arrived at your new home in the countryside after leaving your family in the city. Write a letter to your mum or dad describing:

- The journey there
- What your new home is like
- How you feel about everything

*What do you miss? What surprises you? Are you pretending to be brave?*

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#### 2. "Dear Diary, the Air Raid Started..."

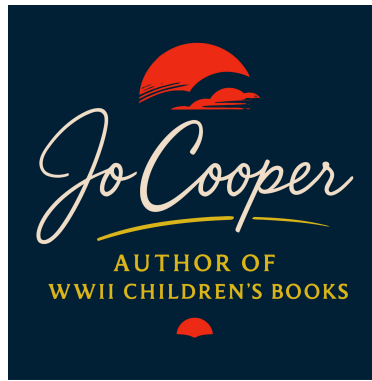
Write a diary entry about the moment the siren goes off in the middle of the night.

- Where are you?
  - What do you take with you?
  - What can you hear, smell, feel?
  - How do the adults behave?
  - How do you stay calm?
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#### 3. "Make Do and Mend – My Invention!"

During the war, people were encouraged to reuse and recycle everything. Invent a new item of clothing or toy made from old things in your house. Describe it and explain:

- What it's made from
- Why it's useful
- How you made it



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 4. *"The Codebreaker's Challenge"*


You've just joined a secret children's spy network on the Isle of Wight. Your mission: intercept a suspicious message using Morse code or invisible ink. Write the scene where you discover the message and crack the code.

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 5. *"Victory Garden Trouble!"*

You're helping dig a vegetable patch at school as part of the war effort. Suddenly, something unusual is found buried in the soil. What is it? What happens next?

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 6. *"The Last Day Before Evacuation"*

Write a story or poem about the day before you leave your family.

- Who do you talk to?
- What do you pack?
- What advice are you given?

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 7. *"A Conversation in the Shelter"*

Create a dialogue-only scene between two children sheltering during a raid. Let their words show:

- What they're afraid of
- What they hope for
- How they comfort each other