NCM

NATIONAL COAL MINING MUSEUM

for England

Mining Objects Cards

Instructions for using cards:
Print, and then cut out all the cards in this pack. Have a go at playing these games:

Matching Game
Some cards show pictures of objects that were used by miners in the past, and some cards contain descriptions. See if you can match all the descriptions to the pictures.

Memory Game
Mix up all the cards, and lay them out so that they are all face down, in rows. Pick any two cards at a time - if you find a description and a picture that match then you keep the pair, if not put the cards back. Time yourself to see how long it takes to find all the pairs. Or play with a partner to see who finds the most pairs.

What other games could you play?

- "Snap" is a Yorkshire dialect word meaning food.

- A snap tin is a metal container made the same shape as a slice of bread, which a miner would use to carry his lunch.

- Traditional miners' meals may include bread and jam or bread and dripping.

- Their lunch was kept in a metal container to keep it safe from mice and rats.

Snap Tin

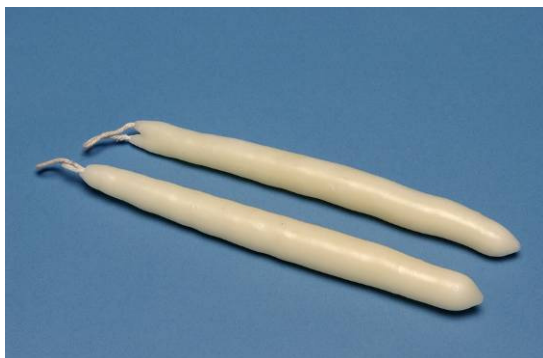|	
	• Motties were iron tags that colliers would tie on to the tubs of coal that they had mined. • This would let mine managers know how much coal each of their miners had mined. • Miners pay was linked to the amount of coal got out.
Motty	
	• Ponies were an important part of the underground workforce. • The floor underground was hard so ponies' hooves would crack and split, and make the pony lame unless they were shod. • Some blacksmiths would work underground where the ponies lived, to make and fit the shoes cold.
Pony Shoe	

Safety Lamp	■ The flame safety lamp was invented by Sir Humphrey Davy in 1815 to provide a safe source of light underground. ■ The lamp allowed oxygen for the flame to get in, but stopped a flame or spark mixing with explosive gases found in mines.
Tallow Candles	■ Many early miners used tallow candles to help them see as they worked underground. ■ Tallow is a hard waxy substance made from animal fat. ■ Using candles was dangerous because of the explosive gases found underground.

	• Corves were large baskets made of sticks that were used to carry coal from the coalface. • It would be put on a type of sled to be pushed underground, and then winched up at the shaft. • This corfe is over a metre across, and could probably carry over half a tonne of coal.
Corfe	
	• Shovels, and similar tools have been used since the early days of mining • They were used to load loose coal into carts and corves.
Shovel	

- Picks were used to dig coal out from the coalface.

- They could also be used to break up large pieces of coal.

Pick

- A tipple tin was a pay tin.

- A single miner could collect the wages for all his men and distribute to them from his tin.

Tipple Tin