 **Answer sheet Victorian Laundry**

←Possers and a wash board. Clothes were rubbed against the rough surface of the wash board to loosen the dirt.

The small posser would be used for hand washing and the larger one with the Dolly tub with a dolly peg

←Here is a **Victorian Copper**. It would be outside in the yard or in the Wash House. Families from a number of houses would work together to do all the laundry on Wash Day Monday.

# Collect the sticks, coal to make a fire under the copper

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# Collect the water from the well in the yard by means of the pump

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**Fill the copper with water and light the fire to heat the water in the copper**

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**Sort the clothes according to how dirty they are**

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**Pay special attention to clothes that are stained & scrub them well**

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**Scrub shirt collars with carbolic soap and laundry brush**

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**Sort the white washing from the coloured washing**

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**Use a bucket to fill the Dolly tub with hot water from the copper**

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**Plunge and spin the clothes in the tub with the Dolly Peg**

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**Transfer washed white clothes to the copper to boil to whiten**

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**Re-fill Dolly tub from well with clean water and add Dolly blue**

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**Rinse clothes thoroughly using a posser or Dolly peg**

****

**Repeat this until the clothes are free of soap**

****

**Put the clothes through the mangle to squeeze out the water**

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**Peg the clothes on the line to dry**

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**Transfer clothes from the copper to the Dolly tub**

****

**Rinse clothes thoroughly using a posser or Dolly peg**

****

**Repeat this until the clothes are free of soap**

****

**Put the clothes through the mangle to squeeze out the water**

****

**Mix Colmans cold water starch**

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**Dip pillowcases and cuffs and collars in Starch for crisp appearance**

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**Peg the clothes on the line to dry**

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**Use the water left over in the copper to clean the floor**

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**Heat the flat irons on the fire**

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**Put a blanket on the scrubbed table ready for ironing**

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**Iron clothes**

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**Air the clothes in-front of the fire**

**Well done everyone.** I hope you had fun doing this. \*This answer sheet used many of the tasks twice just to show how time consuming it all was because coloured clothes had to be washed separately from the white. They all had to be rinsed very well in order to keep the white washing white. \* we did not expect you to do this. You could decorate the sheet if you wish. Some people would leave the washing of the floor until the end of the day others may prefer to do it earlier when the water from the copper was still hot.

**How easy it all is today** with electric washing machines. **How lucky we are** to do this work sheet on the computer – just think if you were doing it using a dip pen like the Victorian children. **Let us be thankful** for the progress that has been made.