



Water in your home



Francis Kilvert was a vicar who lived on the Welsh border in Victorian times. This is what he wrote in his diary about having a bath in winter. "I sat down in my bath upon a sheet of thick ice which broke in the middle into large pieces whilst sharp points and jagged edges stuck all round the sides of the tub, not particularly comforting, for the keen ice cut like broken glass. The ice water stung and scorched like fire. I had to collect the floating pieces of ice and pile them on a chair before I could use the sponge and then I had to thaw the sponge in my hands for it was a mass of ice."

Why do you think Kilvert couldn't have a hot bath?

Make a list of at least three things we have in our homes today which the Victorians didn't have.

Use the Internet or reference books to find how other people in Wales (e.g. coal miners) used to take a bath.
