



## Spin the Drums hands-on activity

This activity is designed to give a multi-layered insight into the lives of two typical families of earliest settlers.

The similarities in the lives of a reasonably wealthy employer the 'Master' Thomas Brown and his wife Eliza are contrasted with that of their indentured servant, John Taylor.

Participants find these similarities by spinning the drums and comparing the information.

Further detail can then be found on the matching picture-cards. Relevant objects are also displayed with picture-cards.

The game links to the panel 'A New Start' which explores some of the motives and processes of settlement.

It also links to two nearby showcases, one containing precious items that would have been brought with great care from the UK, the other of home-made or recycled early settler household goods.

The quotes on the Brown family are drawn from:

Cowan, P., [A Faithful Picture](#), Fremantle Arts Centre Press, 1977  
which you may find useful background study material for early settler life in York.

