**ARCHIVAL RESEARCH PROJECT**

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* Derives from Lydia Maria Child’s book “The Girl’s Own Book.” Published in Boston in 1833.
* Young girls learned domesticity and how to act ladylike through the use of games, rhymes and songs.
* The passage showcases girlhood (gender performativity) and domesticity during the Victorian Era.
* Child’s uses statements such as “Gracefulness of manner” and “Elegant accomplishments.”
* Significant difference between how girls were taught to play in the 19th century compared to present day. → Changed with girls’ roles in society.
* “Little Mother’s” is an aluminum dinner toy set that was created between 1949 and 1953 by Aluminum Goods Manufacturing Company out of Manitowoc, Wisconsin.
* -This particular item is a part of the WHS museum collections.
* It was said to have been purchased on eBay November 23, 2005 from a seller in Watkinsville, Georgia.
* It consists of many detailed pieces such as dinner plates, cups, silverware, napkins, and even a lazy susan.
* It is said that girls' toys at this time were made to help prepare

 young girls for their future role as a woman and wife.

* Created by Milton Bradley Company out of Springfield Massachusetts
* This game involves having the children race throughout the house to see who can complete the chores quickest
* Game consists of game board, spinner, instructions, four game pieces, and twenty playing cards & can be played by 2-4 players
* Many mid-nineteenth century games were created to teach good behavior and morals
* Item is held in the Wisconsin Historical Society Museum and the date it was obtained is unknown

**CONNECTIONS TO CLASS**

* “Little Mother’s”- *Little Women*; domestic duties and gender roles.
* “Mother’s Helper”- *Little Women & Little House on the Prairie;* domestic chores and family life.
* “The Girl’s Own Book”- *Little Women & Little House on the Prairie;* roles of young girls.