Home Exterior

Historic New England has homes from four centuries. Some of the houses look much the same as they did when they were first built. Most of them though have changed over the years, as their owners altered them to better suit their needs or fit their idea of what a beautiful house looks like.

When you get down to the details, houses change even over short periods of time. A house in a winter snow storm with a snow shovel on the front porch looks quite a bit different than the same house on a hot summer day with children playing outside.

Have your students draw pictures or take photos of their homes. They should take four pictures—one from each side of their home—and include details that immediately surround the building itself. They can then compare their pictures to older photos of their home, or you can have them repeat this exercise through the school year as the seasons change, and then compare all of their images at the end of the year.



Home Exterior

Make four drawings of the outside of your home—one each of the front, back, and sides. Be sure to include as many details as possible, both of the building itself and the space right around it. Date your drawing.

