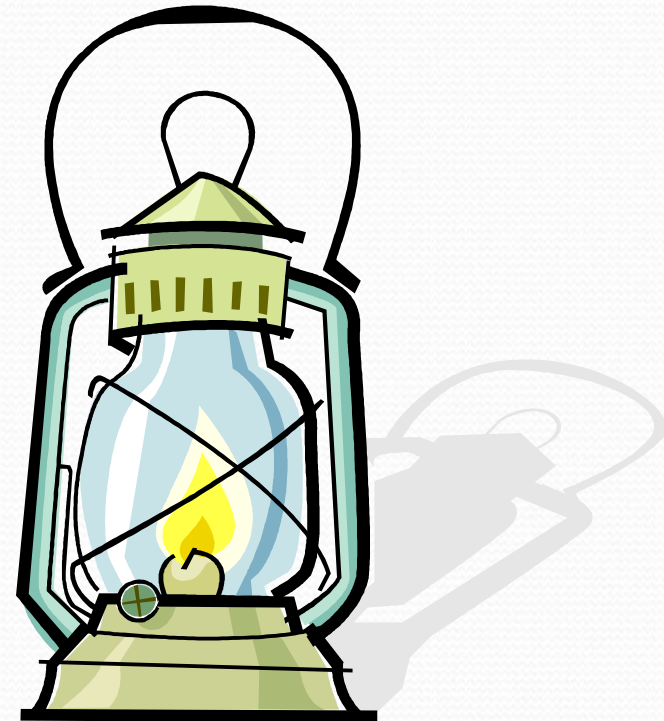


Learning about Lighthouses

What is a lighthouse?

- A building which gives out light.
- They help keep ships and boats safe by showing where the land is.



Who built the first lighthouse?

- The first known lighthouse was built in Ancient Egypt over 2000 years ago and it was called “The lighthouse of Alexandria”.
- It was in an Island called Pharos- some languages still use that word instead of “lighthouse”.
- The first lighthouse in Britain was built in Devon after the Roman invasion.



How does a lighthouse work?

- Light from the lighthouse used to come from lamps burning oil or candles.
- Today lighthouses use electricity just like in our homes!
- The light in lighthouses usually follow a pattern.



Do all lighthouses have the same light patterns?

- No, every lighthouse has a different light pattern to alert boats and ships that there is land or dangerous areas of water nearby!

Where are lighthouses found?

LIGHTHOUSES



On rocky cliffs



On sandy shoals



On waveswept reef in the sea



Entrances to harbours and bays



to warn ships about....

- Reefs beneath the sea.



And rocky coasts on land



Also help ships to get in and out of harbours.

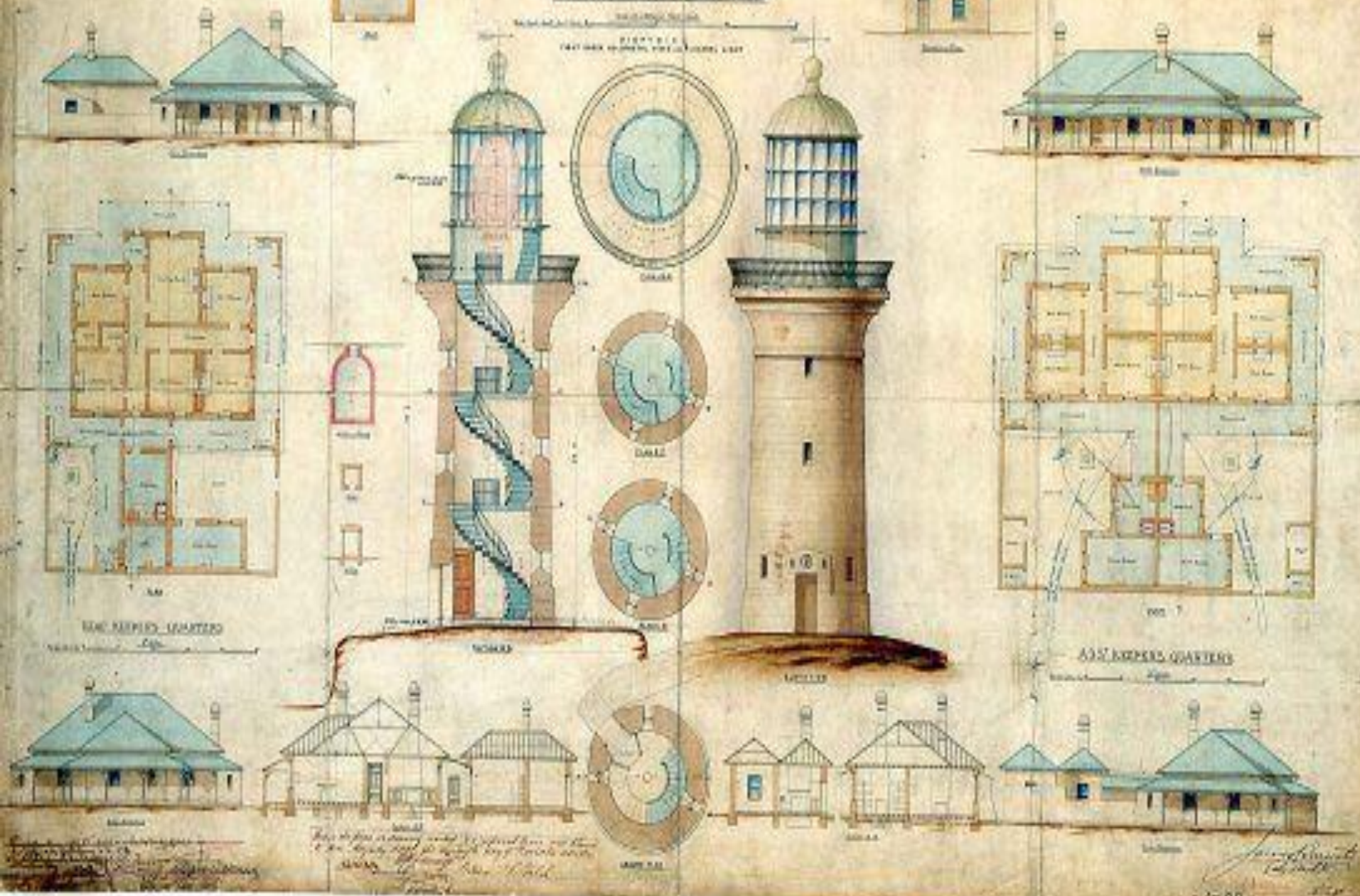


What is inside the lighthouse?

- The Lantern Room is the glassed-in housing at the top of a lighthouse tower containing the lamp and lens. The windows have to be special, strong storm panes, supported by metal bars.
- Beneath the lantern room is usually a Watch Room where fuel and other supplies were kept and where the keeper prepared the lanterns for the night and often stood watch.
- On a lighthouse tower, an open platform called the gallery is often located outside the watchroom. This was mainly used for cleaning the outside of the windows of the Lantern Room.



MONTAGUE ISLAND
LIGHTHOUSE...QUARTERS

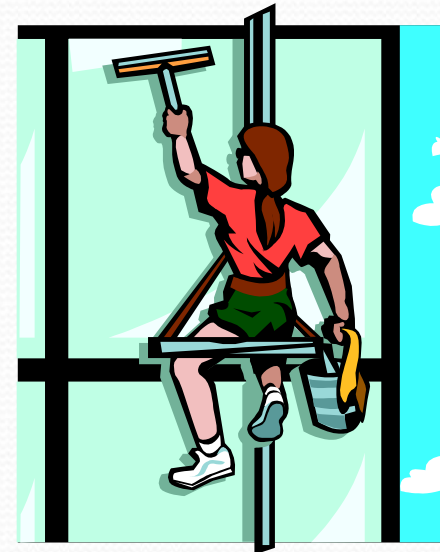


Why does Mr Grinling's Lighthouse have red and white stripes?

- Not all lighthouses are stripy – but they are all painted to stand out against the cliffs and sea that surround them.
- Some are painted black and white; some are painted with spiralling stripes.
- Lights near to each other that are similar in shape are often painted in a unique pattern so they can easily be recognized during the daylight.

What do Lighthouse Keepers do?

- Lighthouse keepers were needed to trim the wicks (when oil lamps were still used), replenish fuel, wind clockworks and perform maintenance tasks such as cleaning lenses and windows.





The End