

West Kirby Primary School

21st Century Toys



Toys from the past – Some toys and games are thousands of years old. In Museums you can see Ancient Egyptian toys such as balls, toy animals, dolls and spinning tops. Some toys have hardly changed over the years, but others have. Toys are made from different materials. The materials toys are made from helps us to know how old the toy is.



Teddy bears were invented over 100 years ago. They are named after the US President Theodore Roosevelt. He saved a bear cub from hunters and newspapers printed the story. Soon toy makers made teddy bears.

Toys – History Focus

Years 1 & 2 (Autumn 1)

21st Century Toys

- Bright
- Colourful
- Usually made from plastic
- Electronic
- Make a sound, move or light up
- Fictional characters from TV or Film
- Touch screen

Toys from the past

- Simple – usually made from wood
- Limited choice
- Manual
- No batteries
- Often home made
- Shared with siblings

Toy Crazes



Can you find out about any other crazes?

Children's Entertainment



How do you think the children who attended West Kirby Primary School 100 years ago entertained themselves?

Traditional Games

Have you played chess?
Have you played Snakes & Ladders?



Prior Learning

- Looking closely at similarities and differences
- Recognising how toys work.
- Using every day language relating to time.
- Developing an understanding of changes over time.

Vocabulary Dozen

toy	An object, often a small representation of something familiar, designed for children or others to play with.
century	A period of 100 years.
modern	A present or recent time.
past	When something has already occurred or the time has gone by.
present	Something that is happening or existing now at this exact time.
illusion	Something that tricks the eye by creating a false impression.
mechanism	A set of moving parts linked together to complete a moving motion.
electronic	Gadgets that make sounds, have screens or light up and require batteries or a plug to work.
handmade	Objects that are made by hand rather than machines.
Victorian	The period of time that Queen Victoria reigned.
traditional	Games, stories, information and beliefs that are handed down from generation to generation.
puzzles	A game, toy or problem designed to test a person's knowledge.

Ideas to think about...

- What toys are your favourite ones to play with?
- What toys were popular in the past?
- What toys did your Parents & Grandparents like to play with?
- What are similarities and differences between toys now and toys in the past?

