

Important Topic Vocabulary

past	Something that has already happened.
present	Something that is happening now.
baby	A very young child who has just been born.
toddler	A very young child that is learning to walk and talk.
chant	Repeating the same thing with others.
dunce	Someone who does not try their best with their learning.

Toys children play with today:

Baby



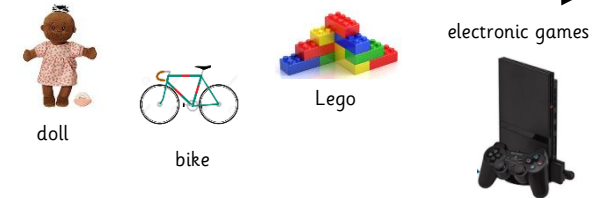
Babies like to put things in their mouth so their toys have big parts so they do not swallow them. Babies' toys are usually made out of materials like fabric or plastic. These materials are easy to clean, light and fabric is soft.

Toddler



Toddlers are learning to walk so they like to play with toys that move. They also like puzzles and things they can figure out, like stacking rings. These toys are made out of wood and plastic because these materials are easy to clean, light and do not break easily.

School Child



Children like to play with dolls and action figures, using their imagination to act out scenes. They like to build things using toys which have smaller parts. They are old enough and strong enough to learn how to ride a bike. They also learn to play games that have rules because they understand how to follow them.

Toys children played with in the past

In the past, children would play with toys that were made out of wood or metal as these were the only materials they had.

Do you recognise any of these toys?

Do you still play with these today?



yoyo



hopscotch



dolls house



rocking horse



cup and ball



spinner top



jacks



wooden train

Schools in the Past

The whole lesson would be written on a blackboard by the teacher, for the children to copy, memorise and chant aloud word-for-word.

The teacher stood up or sat on a tall chair at the front so they could easily see all the children.

Children wrote on dark slate with a white, chalky pencil. They had to spit on the slates to rub out mistakes.



Children had to stay after school and write 'I must not chatter in lesson time' one hundred times if they were caught talking.



Classrooms were very big and had no carpet. There was a fire the front near the teacher, but children at the back would often be very cold!



School children sat on benches behind their own wooden desks. Sometimes, five children had to squeeze onto a bench made for two.



There were strict punishments for children. Some children were made to wear a tall pointed paper hat usually had the letter 'D' or the word 'Dunce' written on it.

School Today



Think about school today.

Draw a picture of your classroom and compare it to the classroom from the past.

What is the **same**?

What is **different**?

Suggested Activities:

- Talk to your parents and grandparents about the toys they used to play with.
- Ask your parents and grandparents what school was like when they were a child.
- Play some games from the past, for example: hop scotch, elastics, skipping, tag, what time is it Mr Wolf, rhymes, conkers, marbles or jacks.

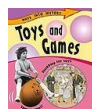
Brilliant Books!

Lost in the Toy Museum: An Adventure - David Lucas

The Amelia Collection – Enid Blyton

Toys and Games – Sally Hewitt

Going to School Comparing Past and Present – Rebecca Rissman



Useful Websites:

<https://www.theschoolrun.com/homework-help/history-toys>

<http://www.windowsonwarwickshire.org.uk/spotlights/toysandgames/index.htm>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/clips/zcjmtfr>

