

Terrific Topic—Week 3

Wed pm: Miss Burrough's Toy Museum

To learn about changes beyond living memory

To distinguish between an object and the material from which it is made.

Vocabulary: materials, bisque, sawdust, silk, serge, lace, tin, clockwork, lead

Watch 'Miss Burrough's Toy Museum' Video on the video website to see an exploration of some Victorian/Edwardian toys owned by my Gran and her older sister, and 1930s/40s toys owned by my Dad — including dolls and dolls' clothes, tin vehicles, picture blocks, lead farm, Meccano etc. Discussion includes materials and methods of propulsion (such as winding key opposed to modern-day batteries).

Talk about what you have learned—look at patterns between the age of the toy and the material. Make some generalisations: the materials used for making toys have changed & diversified (plastic/softer materials for modern and more metal/wood for older); the range of materials has broadened over time & many toys are safer as a result; we have more man-made fabrics now including plastic; plastic is newer, while metal and wood are older (though still used for some toys today). (I've also put some photos on 'Miss Burrough's Toy Museum' PDF on the website).

To explore some other old and new toys (if you would like to) you could look at the children's page of the Castle Museum's website which compares modern toys to their vintage or antique counterparts, and explains how the different toys move or work.

[Moving Toys](#) • [Toys Through Time](#) • [MyLearning](#)



Activity: Your job today is to interview your parents / grandparents / great grandparents about their favourite toy when they were little. Find out what the toy was called, why they liked it so much, how it worked, what it was made of, and any other information you can. Think about your own favourite toy too. Complete the "Toys through the decades" worksheet— you could draw the toys or stick in a photograph.



Thurs pm: Old and New Toys Comparison

To learn about changes beyond living memory

Part 1: Show children <http://www.windowsonwarwickshire.org.uk/spotlights/toysandgames/index.htm>

First look at either 'Picture gallery'—'see the museum objects' (which is just simple pictures) or, if you look instead at 'Teacher resources'—'Downloadable image bank' it has a snippet of interesting information about each of the objects—what they're made of, in some cases who owned them, how old they are etc.

Then work through the very simple activities on the left hand side and discuss your child's reasoning with them to judge the level of their understanding:

'New or Old?' - sort the pictures and words [[Technical note—on my laptop you have to click and slide the pictures and then tap the touchpad to make them stick to the right place!]]

'Who owns me?' - a very simple activity to show that different people (of different ages) have different toys.

'What material?' -sort the toys into wood/plastic/fabric

[nb 'What is my sound?' doesn't seem to work on my laptop—no idea why!]

(There are also other ideas for extra follow-on ideas on 'Teacher resources—class activity ideas', such as mini-drama activities, if you like the idea of any of them!)

See part 2 on next page.

Thurs pm continued:

Simple Epic Books that will add to understanding:

Toys 100 Years ago also has an interactive quiz

Toys Then and Now—compares antique and vintage toys with the modern equivalents

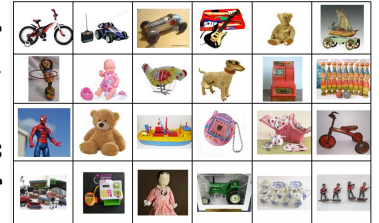
Toys and Games Past and Present—similar idea to the above.



Activity: Old and New sorting

Year 1- see **Year 1 Worksheet for sorting old and new toys PDF**: Ask your child to cut out and sort example photographs of old and new toys into separate categories;

Year R can join in the Year 1 activity or sort the pictures in the **Yr R Pictures of old and new toys to sort PDF**. (nb you don't have to do them all -follow your child's level of interest!)



Friday—timeline

Have a look at the website below to see a timeline of popular toys through the ages—if you click on the pictures you're interested in, it gives you a snippet of information about it.

[Kites to Video Games: A Genius of Play Timeline of Cool Toys For Kids \(thegeniusofplay.org\)](https://thegeniusofplay.org)

Activity: Make a Toys Timeline

Use the cards in the **Toys Timeline PDF** on the website to try to put the toys in order to make a timeline (using rounded dates) - Can you fit the extra toys in? Can you work out where the toys from Miss Burrough's Toy Museum would go? Where would your parents' favourite toys go? What about your grandparents' toys? Where would your own toys be?

(A couple of short YouTube videos on how toys change:

[100 Years of Toys 7 Glam.com - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...)

[Toys Evolution | 9000BC - 2020 - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...) (suggest turn down annoying music!)