



# History Activity: Toys

The following activity will include a series of prompts teachers can give their students during circle time:

1. Make arrangements for each child to bring in their own personal toys from home.
2. The following day, once each child has their own toy, have them gather in a circle. After a circle has been formed, explain to them that a series of photographs showcasing different toys that were created in the past will be passed around for everyone to look at.
3. Pass around the photograph of the toy Aeroplane and have them guess what it is and the type of material it is made of. When asking what material it may be made of, give the following options - glass, metal, plastic, and wood. Repeat this with each toy (Soldier, Chief, and Dog). Each toy is made of metal.
4. Then explain to the children that the photographs of each toy passed around were created in a different century than the one they were born and live in today. Inform them that each photograph of the different toys shown were created in the 20th century, except one. Have them guess which one was not created during the 20th century. If one guesses right, ask them which century they think it could have been created in. When they are trying to guess, give the following options - 17th, 18th, and 19th century.
5. After all of the photographs of each toy are passed around and discussed, have the children think of one or two ways in which these toys are similar and different than the ones they brought in for the day. Have them look at shape, size, material, and colour.

\*Information and photographs of each of the toys are on a separate page to be cut out.



Toy - soldier; Material - metal;  
Century - 1800s



Toy - aeroplane; Material - metal;  
Century - 1900s



Toy - dog; Material - metal;  
Century - 1900s



Toy - chief; Material - metal;  
Century - 1900s