River View Primary School



Year 1

Spring 1: Childhood then and now

Key question: can children discuss the most significant changes from childhood in the past and now?

Vocabulary	
Past	Something that has happened a second, minute, year, 10 years, 100 years etc. ago.
Victorian Times	A period of history which was over 100 years ago
Rocking horse	A toy children in the Victorian times used to play with. It was usually made from wood.
Childhood crazes	This is something that lots of people enjoy for a short period of time. It is the must have thing right now, but it will probably be forgotten soon.
Terraced house	Lots of houses attached and built together in a row. In the Victorian times, most people lived in shared terraced houses with bay windows. The toilet was usually outside.
Holiday	A time when you don't work and do things such as relax and enjoy time with your family. Victorian children usually went on seaside holidays as going abroad wasn't an option.
Punishment	Something that was given to you if you misbehaved. In the Victorian times, you may have been made to wear a dunce's hat or a teacher would use a cane on your hand.





1. Schools now and in the past

Today, schools are inclusive. Children take part in all lessons and punishments are not as harsh as they were in the past. However, in the past schools were very strict. Children had to follow lots of rules and if they were broken, they were punished harshly. Some of the punishments included wearing a dunce's hat or having the cane. Some subjects like sewing were only for girls and subjects like woodwork were only for boys.

3. Holidays now and in the past

Today, most people like to go aboard for a seaside holiday because it is quite cheap and very sunny. Back then, seaside holidays were very different. Most Victorians would go to a British seaside as flying to another country wasn't an option. Sunbathing wasn't in fashion back then, so Victorians would go to the beach fully clothed.

2. Houses now and in the past

Today, people live in lots of different types of houses. Some of these include detached houses, which stands on it own, semi-detached houses which are two houses attached and flats that are lots of different homes in one building, to name a few. However, in Victorian times, people mostly lived in terraced houses where the toilet was outside and had bay windows. Victorian houses were decorated with lots of colours and patterns.

4. Technology now and in the past

Today, we have lots of different types of technology including phones and tablets etc. During the Victorian time, the Industrial Revolution occurred, which meant that there was a shift from making things by hand and moving towards making things using machinery. This meant things like the telephone and electric bulbs were invented.

5. Toys and childhood crazes now and in the past

Today, children play with toys like hungry hippos, roller skates, barbie dolls and superhero toys. In the past, children played to toys similar to this, including dolls and teddy bears. In the past, toys were mostly made from materials such as wood, china and metal, whereas now, there are a lot more safety rules when making toys.

Recently, fidget spinners were very popular amongst children. This could be considered a childhood craze. In the past, childhood crazes included marbles which were prominent in the 1950s/60s.

Terraced houses

Strict classrooms

Lots of types of houses

Teddy bears & metal cars

Seaside holidays

Rubik's cubes

iPads, tablets, phones

Holidays abroad

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