

Knowledge Mat: Toys

Subject Specific Vocabulary	
WORD	DEFINITION
materials	Wood, plastic, metal and glass are just some of the materials we use to make the things around us
plastic	Plastic is a material that can change its shape. Many things are made of plastic because making them the right shape is easy. Most of the materials called plastics are polymers.
wood	Wood is the hard substance found in the trunk and branches of trees and shrubs.
cloth	Cloth is woven or felted fabric made from wool, cotton or manmade fibres.
robot	A robot is a machine that can be programmed to carry out a series of actions automatically.
computer	A computer is an electronic device that works with information. The information can be numbers, words, pictures, movies, sounds or games.
skipping	A very popular game in the 1960s. It was a long piece of rope which was turned by two children.
marbles	Another popular game was marbles. Many children came to school with a pocketful of marbles.
snakes and ladders	A board game which everyone knew in the 1960s. The board was made up of squares and you would move up a ladder and down the snake.
ludo	A popular board game played with a dice. Children would chase each other around the board.



Sticky Knowledge

- The earliest-known written historical mention of a toy comes from about 500bc.
- The Hula Hoop became one of the first toy crazes in the United States in the 1950's.
- The teddy bear was named after Theodore Teddy Roosevelt.
- Toys are the objects that we play with. They can be anything from a cardboard box to porcelain dolls and powerful computers.
- Toys do not have to be complicated – a piece of string can be turned into a cat's cradle.
- Looking at what a toy is made from can help work out how old it is.
- Just because a toy moves does not mean that it is modern. Moving toys can have wheels, hinges and cogs instead of batteries. The earliest clockwork toy was made more than 250 years ago.
- Many new toys use electricity or batteries to move, make noise or light.
- Old toys were usually made from materials such as wood, metal, glass and fabric.

The simplest toys are often popular and last a long time. LEGO is one of the most popular and best-selling toys of all time. As of 2015, over 600 billion LEGO parts have been produced. LEGO is the world's largest producer of rubber tyres. Six eight-stud LEGO bricks can be combined in over 915 million different ways. You could reach the moon with a column of around 40 billion LEGO bricks.



The earliest toys were dolls. The oldest one is nearly 4,500 year old



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