

Grandma's Toy Chest

Session takes approx. 75 mins

Aims:

- To learn different ways of analysing the age of an artefact.
- To discover how toys developed.
- To explore different materials commonly found in old and new toys.

Session breakdown:

The session will be divided into three parts: **Storytime, Object Handling and Playing** and a **Creative Activity**.

Storytime and Sorting Activity:

Focusing on materials and looking at indicators of age (such as surface damage and rust), the children separate the old and new toys. Each child gets the opportunity to hold a toy, including some which are over 100 years old. This element of the session is very multi-sensory with the children using clues such as touch, sight and even sound, to sort the artefacts.

Object Handling and Playing:

The children explore how children played in the past and how simple toys were often developed from materials in the natural world, particularly from wood. They then play with a selection of replica wooden toys.

Creative Activity:

The session is concluded by the children making their own peg doll to take home.

Curriculum Links:

- History: changes within living memory
- Science: materials and their properties
- Art: use a range of materials to design and make products