

# The history of toys



**1800s - Rich family**  
Children from rich families played with train sets, tea sets, dolls and toy soldiers.

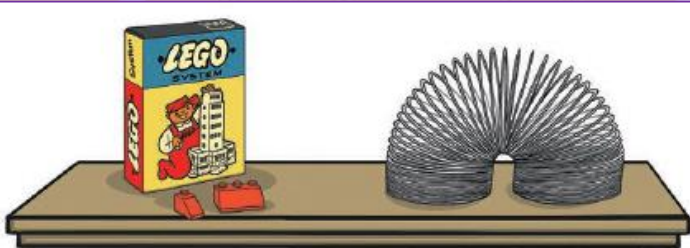
**1800s - Poor family**  
Children from poor families played with homemade toys such as ragdolls and wooden boats.

**1902**  
In Germany, Richard Steiff based one of his toy designs on a bear he saw at the zoo. In 1902, the Steiff Company started making teddy bears.



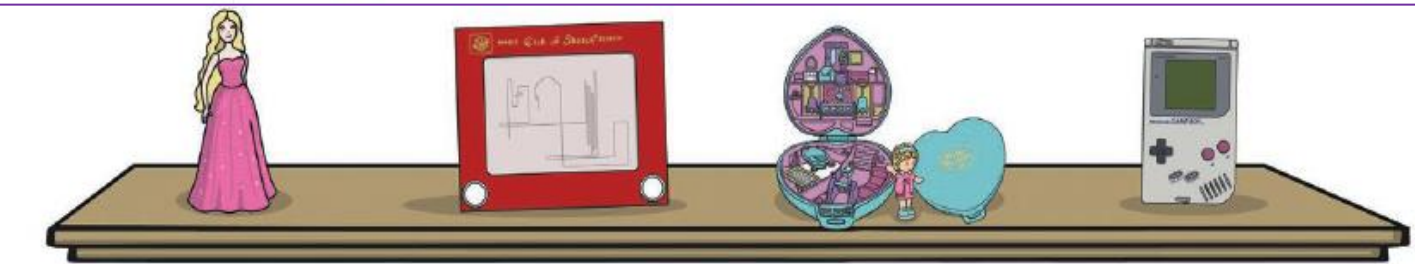
**1903**  
Binney and Smith made a set of 8 wax crayons in 1903. Binney's wife named them Crayola.

**1907**  
The name Meccano was introduced and the first Meccano factory opened in Liverpool.



**1934 - 1949**  
Ole Kirk Christiansen called his toy company 'Lego' in 1939. The plastic blocks were made in 1949.

**1943**  
Richard James invented the slinky in 1943. It performed tricks such as walking down the stairs.



**1959**  
Ruth Handler invented the Barbie doll in 1959. She named the doll after her daughter, Barbara.

**1959**  
The Etch a Sketch was invented by André Cassagnes in 1959 and was introduced in the 1960s.

**1983**  
Chris Wiggs invented Polly Pocket for his daughter in 1983. They first appeared in shops in 1989.

**1989**  
The first Game Boy was developed by Nintendo and was released in Japan in 1989.

## Term 3- Toys

What toys did children play with in the past?

### Key Vocabulary

Materials	The fabric from which something is made.
Timeline	A visual representation of events.
Past	A period of time that has already happened.
Present	A period of time not yet happened.
Old	Something from the past.
New	Something that has recently being discovered.