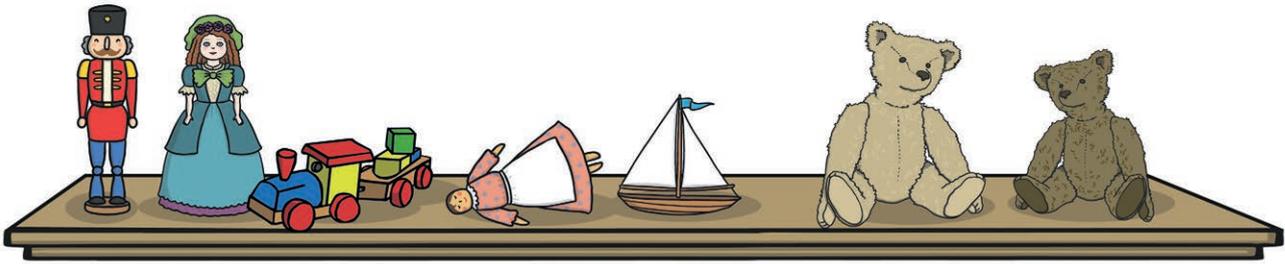


The History of Toys



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

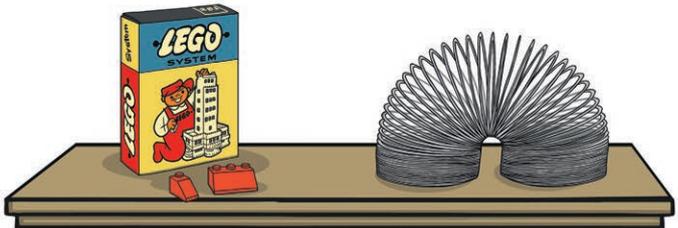
1800s - Poor family
Children from poor families played with homemade toys such as ragdolls and wooden boats.

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.



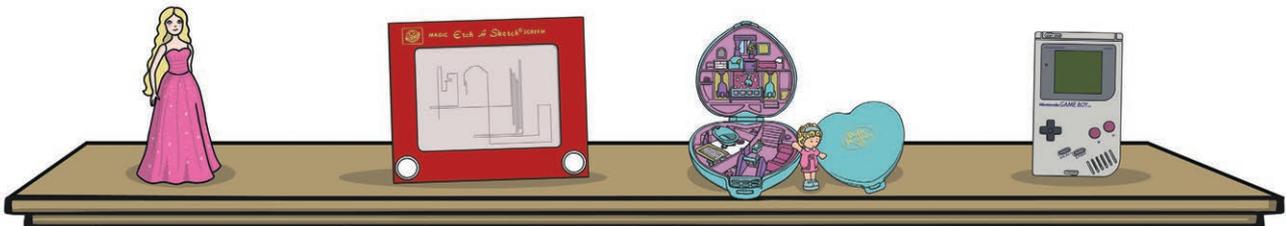
1903
Binney and Smith made a set of 8 wax crayons in 1903. Binney's wife named them Crayola.

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.

