CBS Knowledge Organiser

Year: 1&2

Toys past and present

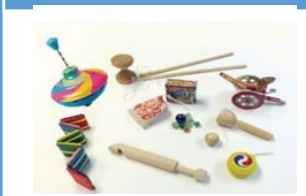
What I already know

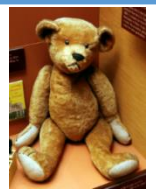
Y1 – First hand experience playing with modern day toys and discussing how they work. Describing objects and the materials they are made of (science).

Y2 – Famous Queens topic learning about Queen Victoria and the Victorian period. Describing objects and the materials they are made of (science).

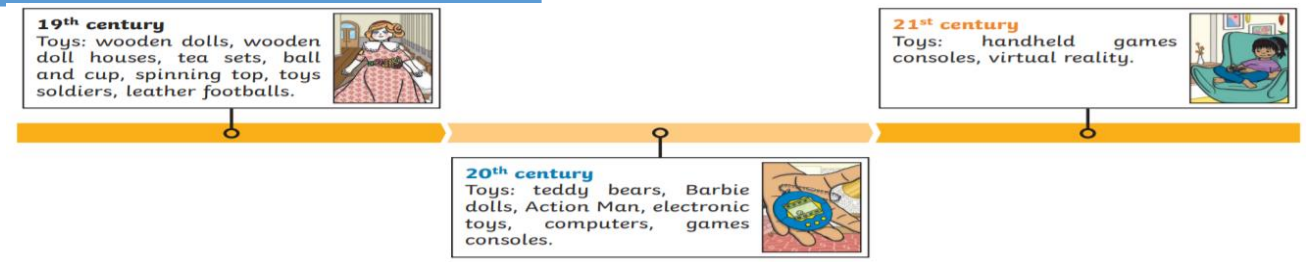
Overview of unit:

Children will explore and describe the characteristics of modern day toys and toys from the past. They will use their enquiry skills to say whether a toy is old or new and explain how they know. At the end of the unit children will use all of the knowledge they have learnt write a comparison of toys past and present.









New Knowledge/Facts

Toys have existed for thousands of years. They were made out of the material that was available at the time Even stones and string have been made into toys. Toys were mainly made of wood, paper and metal during the Victorian age. Rich Victorian children played with toys such as clockwork trains, rocking horses, tea sets and dolls. Poorer children played with homemade toys such as peg dolls, wooden boats and rags stuffed with sawdust to make balls or toy animals. Modern toys are mainly made out of plastic. This is because it is usually safer and easier to make things with. Many modern toys use electricity to work. Computers and consoles were invented in the 20th century.

Key Vocab

Word	Definition
Victorian	The time of Queen Victoria's reign 1837-1901
20th Century	1900-1999
21st century	2000-2099
Wooden toys	Lots of toys used to be made of wood. Boats, train sets and cup and ball were made of wood. Some toys are still made of wood.
Paper toys	Some toys, like paper windmills, were made out of paper.
Metal toys	Toys soldiers and some spinning tops were made out of metal.
Plastic toys	Most modern toys are made of plastic Toy soldiers, dolls and ride-on cars these days are

Key People

Morris Michtom
Inventor of the teddy bear as we would recognise it today.

