Object Factsheets for loan box

VICTORIAN TOYS 9A

print pages 2-35 double sided to enable you to show to your class with info for you on the back
Lead Toy

- Lead toys were very popular during Victorian times

- Victorians did not know lead was poisonous

- Lead was used as it was a cheap and widely available metal
Happy Families

- Card games were often played in the evenings in Victorian homes
- Packs of cards could be made at home
- These cards are copies of hand drawn and coloured cards made in the 1860’s by children of the Broadwood family of Lye house near Capel in Surrey
- They depict the Victorian idea of an ‘ideal’ family set up
Mechanical Clowns

• Toys like this are sometimes known as automata

• Automata use basic cogs and cams to move

• Victorian children could have made these at home
Spinning Top

- Tops have been popular toys since ancient times
- The design is very simple
- They can be made out of scraps of wood
- Rich children could have had more elaborate metal designs
MARJORIE AND MURIEL
Children’s Book

- In early Victorian times books were used mainly for instruction

- Later in the Victorian period, story books, fairy tales and rhymes became popular after legislation and social attitudes changed
Cut-Out Pictures

- They were very popular in Victorian times.
- They began to be imported into Britain from France and Germany in the 1860s.
- They were cut out and stuck into scrapbooks.
- They often depict beautifully dressed children.

Romantic scenes and special occasions.
Wooden Jumping Jack

- These were used in toy theatres to act out a play or pantomime
- This figure is from the earliest traditional English pantomimes performed in the first half of the last century
- The most exciting part of the show was the ‘Harlequinade’ where the hero was transformed into Harlequin (this character)
Zoetrope

- These optical toys were very popular in Victorian Britain
- It would give the illusion of the cartoons and images actually moving inside the metal (or wooden) container
- Different strips of paper could be bought and placed inside and the zoetrope spun
- Children watched through the slits on the side to see the image “move”
Cup & Ball

- This toy is a replica
- These have been around since the 15th century
- They are still a popular toy today
- They are used to enhance hand-eye co-ordination
Pop-Gun

- This toy is a replica

- Air pushes the cork out when the trigger is pushed in

- This was a very popular toy for Victorian boys
Swing Toy

- This toy demonstrates a simple mechanical movement
- Squeeze together the two long pieces of wood to make the figure move
- It is made from wood and string
Teddy Bear

- Realistic bears were popular in the 19th century
- They were often fierce with sharp teeth and glaring eyes
- Bears were a part of the folklore of many countries
- ‘Teddys’ were introduced in 1903 based on a cartoon of The President of the United States of America
- ‘Teddy’ Roosevelt was depicted with a bear, which he had refused to shoot, at his feet
- Margaret Steiff, a German toy manufacturer, also saw the cartoon and started to produce a jointed doll-like figure with a bear’s head
Modern Teddy Bear

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Doll’s Clothes

- Dolls have been around for thousands of years
- In Victorian times dolls were made from a variety of materials: rags, wood, papier mache, wax and porcelain
- They were popular for both boys and girls
- Doll’s houses became popular too
Early Plastic Doll

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Chertsey Museum