

Year 1 Topic

# Memory Box



Are you ready to travel back in time?

As part of this learning project, we're taking a trip to the past to discover what life was like at the time when we were born. Younger children will come along to our Teddy Bear's picnic, so we can observe how toddlers play and move. We'll also find out how babies change and grow over time. Thinking about our childhoods, we'll use photos and objects from the past to help us remember special times including weddings. We'll talk about our families and share happy memories of people or pets who are no longer alive. We'll decide how objects from the past were used and have fun learning games from bygone days.

## Help your child prepare for their project

Looking back on the past can be funny, poignant and interesting! Why not get together as a family and share memories from the past, commenting on wacky clothes and happy holidays? Alternatively, visiting a local museum would allow you to see what life was like in the past. You could also play some traditional games from your childhood. Hopscotch, skipping and conkers are all lots of fun!

## What will you choose to do?

- Make a scrapbook with photos of the people in your family, including your parents and grandparents. Write sentences about the things you like doing with them. Perhaps you could include tickets from events you have been to or cards they have sent you.
- Decorate cardboard cutouts of people to look like your family members. Use fabrics, sequins, wool and other materials to create clothing and features. Can your family recognise themselves?
- Spend some time with a family member or friend with a baby or toddler. Ask them about what the toddler or baby can do and what care they need. Write a set of instructions for baby or toddler care.
- Make a family tree showing all your family members with photographs or drawings. Talk about the relationship between yourself and each family member.
- Choose a song to learn by heart, perhaps *Hush Little Baby*, *Rock-a-Bye, Baby* or the *Teddy Bears' Picnic*. Practise singing it at home to perform for your friends at school.
- Ask your parents or grandparents if they have any photographs of themselves as babies. Can you tell it's them? What differences do you notice in the clothing, furniture or hairstyles in the pictures?
- Write down your birthday memories, including details and pictures of favourite presents or parties.
- Ask a family member about what they do in their day. What time do they get up? What jobs do they need to do during the day? How does their day differ from yours? Create a timeline to show their daily routine.
- Ask your parents and grandparents about what holidays, travel and toys and games were like when they were children. If possible, film their answers to show your class at school.
- Find out the birthday dates of your friends and family members. Do any of them share the same birthday month?
- Create a family album using photographs, drawings and writing to compare your life now to the lives of your parents and grandparents.



