

Look How We've Changed Teachers Notes

In the performance “Look How We've Changed” we travel back in time. We visit the 1700's (300 years ago) the 1800's and the 1900's.

As a class activity, have the students name a few of the old items they saw in the performance.

Write them in a column on the board

Once you have a few items, in a column beside them have the students suggest, and you write down, the things that have replaced the old items.

These could include for example

The collector cards from Vita-brits	What the kids collect today - Pop vinyls, toys, cards
The old records	Mobiles, iPads, iPhones, You Tube
The scoop that the shopkeeper used to get the flour from the bag	Pre-package flour bag
Cow bell	Fences keep cows from wondering too far
The old cameras (they were called Box Brownies)	Mobiles or digital cameras
The magazine	We can still buy magazines. But will these soon be a thing of the past?

Inventions Timeline

To give you an idea of what had been and what hadn't been invented yet, use the invention timeline below. Some may surprise you! Remember while something may have been invented it may not have been used by people. There may have only been one of them in the whole world and that one item would have been owned by the person who invented it.

	First Invented	Popular Use
1700's		
Spear	???	Still used today in ceremonies and exhibitions
Woomera	Records show that the implement began to be used about 5,000 years ago	Still used today in ceremonies and exhibitions
Didgeridoo	Developed by Indigenous Australians of northern Australia potentially within the last 1,500 years	Still in widespread use today both in Australia and around the world
1800's		
Grain Stripper	Circa 1843	1845
Refrigerator	1834 the first working vapour-compression refrigeration system was built.	1913 refrigerators for home use were invented
Underwater torpedo – self propelled	1866 the first effective self-propelled torpedo was invented	1870 the first torpedo factory opened in Europe
Electric drill	1889 the electric drill was patented in Melbourne	1895 the first portable handheld drill was created. 1917 the first trigger-switch, pistol-grip portable drill was patented
Printing Press – Industrial	By 1800 a printing press was built completely from cast iron. Printing presses have been around since the 15 th century	1811 first trial production printer using steam power and rotary motion of cylinders
Steam Locomotive Train	The first steam locomotive, operated on 21 February 1804	1812–13 the first commercially successful steam locomotive created
Toy Balloons	The first rubber balloons were made back in 1824.	Vulcanized toy balloons were first manufactured in 1847.
Microphone	1876 the first microphone used as a telephone voice transmitter.	Circa 1878
Typewriter	The first typewriter to be commercially successful was invented in 1868	Became common in offices after the mid-1880s

Sewing Machine	1829 the first practical and widely used sewing machine was invented.	1844 the first machine to combine elements of the previous half-century of innovation into the modern sewing machine
1900's		
Notepad/Notebook	In 1902, the first notepad was made by cutting sheets of paper in half and used cardboard on the back then glued them together at the top	Circa 1900
Feature Film	By the end of the 1880s, the invention of motion picture cameras, which could photograph an indefinitely long rapid sequence of images using only one lens	1900 1 hour long Army training film. 1906 first dramatic feature film 70 mins long "The Story of the Kelly Gang".
Zinc Cream	Early 1940's	Early 1940's
Vacuum cleaner	1905 The first vacuum-cleaning device to be portable and marketed at the domestic market	For many years after their introduction, vacuum cleaners remained a luxury item, but after the Second World War, they became common among the middle classes.
Teabags	Tea bag patents date as early as 1903	Tea bags were successfully marketed about 1908
Zips	1913 the modern zipper was designed	Early on, zippers were mainly used on boots. It would be another 20 years before the fashion industry began to use zippers on clothing. One of the first uses was replacing the buttons on men's trousers with zippers.
Frozen food	1924 the quick freezing method was invented, which produces the type of frozen foods that we know today	Circa 1930
Car seat belts	First patent for automobile seat belts was on February 10, 1885. 1959 the three-point seat belt was invented	1970 State of Victoria first government in western world to introduce compulsory wearing of seat belts
Video games	October 1958 is thought to be the first video game was created	Reached mainstream popularity in the 1970s and 1980s

Fill in the gaps.

As a group or on your own fill in the gaps with information you have learnt from the show.
The missing words can be found below.

baskets bigger bones cars choice cows elders
hunting lollies packaging seesaw ships shops
stones television time

300 years ago the people living here in Australia were Australian Aborigines

They taught each other how to sharpen _____ and _____ by rubbing them together and creating a sharp edge that they used for cutting.

300 years ago Australian children didn't attend school but they learnt from their _____ how to make _____ and nets used for _____ and gathering.

200 years ago things were beginning to change in Australia

People arrived in large _____ and with them they brought farm animals such as _____ and chickens. There were no _____, aeroplanes or other machinery which meant Australia was quieter to the Australia we know today. We had grocery stores that were much different than those today. They used _____ scales to measure goods such as flour and _____. There was a lot less _____ than what we have in our shops today. If you wanted to buy something it was taken out of one big package or bag and measured into smaller amounts. There was no _____ on items.

100 years ago big inventions were coming

In the 1950s the first _____ came to Australia. Our _____ now had lots of choices and lots of colourful packaging. Although we had printers they were a lot _____ than the printers we have today and could only print simple images, one colour at a _____.

Using information from the show, draw what you think you would see if you were alive in the 1800's. Remember some land was now being used for farming; buildings were being built. People arrived in sailing boats and we had some farm animals.

1800's

Using information from the show, draw what you think you would see if you were alive in the 1900's. This was the era where we had cars, television and our items were in colourful packaging.

1900's

By numbering them from 1 to 8, show the order in which these ways of recording or playing music is the oldest.

Mobile phone

Phonograph cylinder

45 record

Cassette tape

Reel to reel tape

CD's

LP (33) record

78 record