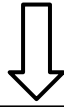


## Essential Question

What do toys and games tell us about kids?



## Background Knowledge

Toys and games offer interesting artifacts from the past that can teach us about culture, values, and social life. The primary source set here includes images of historical dolls and games. Students can begin to identify features in photos that tell us about what's old and what's new. They can begin to practice building chronology with toys and games from different eras.



### Source 1

A child with her toys bears ~ 1860



### Strategy Instructions:

*Sequencing*  
*Sorting*  
*Discussion*  
*Comparing*

### Source 2

A view of a group of young children playing in the street c.1890



## Discussion

- What are your favorite toys? Why do boys and girls play with different toys? Is a new toy better than an old one? Why?
- Do any of you have old toys from a brother or sister? from your Mom or Dad? Grandmother or Grandfather? How were their toys different? Similar?
- What can we learn about a person from looking at the toys they play with?



## Assessment

Students might consider drawing a picture of their favorite toy or game and then explain what it says about them. How might their grandkids one day learn about them from studying this picture of the toy or game?