

## Fun and Games: Come Play with Us!

The 2014 exhibit features toys and games played with by Greensboro children from the late 1800s to 1960. The origin of the word 'toy' is unknown, but may have first been used in the 14th century. Toy animals, soldiers and dolls, as well as child-size representations of tools used by adults are readily found at archaeological sites throughout the world. The ancestors of today's Backgammon and Checkers games have been found in ancient Egyptian tombs and other sites in the Middle East. Cribbage and Dominoes were played in the 1600s and jigsaw puzzles were marketed commercially in the 1700s. The first American board game, The Traveller's Tour Through The United States, was published in 1822.

Greensboro children in the 1800s enjoyed playing with dolls, toy trains, horse-drawn vehicles, and Noah's Ark complete with pairs of animals and figures of Noah and his wife. They also might have played checkers, cribbage, cards and dominoes, or put together jigsaw puzzles. In the twentieth century, many more toys and games became available, including Lincoln Logs, Tinker Toys, Lionel electric trains, Tootsie Toy trucks, teddy bears, Clue and Monopoly.

A wonderful collection has been loaned to the Historical Society by many, many friends. Everyone is invited to come play as well as to view many old favorites. Modern versions of some very old toys that can be played with at the exhibit include marbles and jacks - also known as knucklebones, and pick-up sticks or jackstraws. Work on a jigsaw puzzle, make something with the Erector Set, play a game of cribbage, checkers or Monopoly.



Greensboro Library Home schoolers Sophie Kittredge, Gracie Villareal, Keri Ann Augeri, Owen Kittredge try out some of the games from the summer exhibit.  
Verdict? Wonderful fun!

You can see additional old toys loaned to GHS at the library. Come play with us!