



LaST Themed projects

The 1970's

- World and national events of the 1970's
- Adults' memories of the 1970's
- 1970's Inventions
- 1970's Music
- 1970's Fashion
- 1970's Games
- What was happening locally in the 1970's?

We trialled these resources in Burnham in the Spring and Summer terms of 2023 with children from Year 5. We found there was enough material for several weeks.

We found that the 1970's had been a very important decade in the lives of many of the adults in our group and they enjoyed the opportunity to share their special memories with the children and with one another. The 1970's had also seen many changes taking place in and around Burnham so for some sessions we focussed on local history.

We made up a 1970's folder for the school to keep and added information each week. We also created a timeline which incorporated important events in the adults' lives alongside world and national events.

We are happy for you to use the material in this Toolkit exactly as it is or to modify it as required for your purposes. We do however ask that you always acknowledge its source as follows:

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Topic 1 – World and National Events of the 1970's

This topic and the following one provide an opportunity for the children to learn about a variety of events from the 1970's and for the adults to remember and reflect both on the events themselves and to share memories of what was happening in their own lives during this decade.

Children and older people should work in small groups for this topic.

For this topic you will need

- i) Several copies of the Picture Quiz of 15 world and national events with answer sheet
- ii) Several copies of the Timeline of 1970's events
- iii) 1 copy of the Picture Quiz of the 1970's Answers
- iv) Large piece of paper for timeline (e.g. back of wallpaper/ lining paper)
- v) Scissors and glue sticks
- vi) Envelopes, Plain paper, pencils, coloured pencils, ruler

Before the session – You will need several copies of the Timeline of 1970's events and several envelopes. Cut up each copy of the Timeline of 1970's events so that you have several sets of 15 dates and 15 events. Put one set of the 15 dates in one envelope and one set of the 15 events in another. NB Each group will need one envelope of dates and one envelope of events.

At the session

First of all hand out the 1970's Picture Quiz. Each group will need a couple of copies of the picture quiz and one answer sheet. Give everyone enough time to look at all the pictures to see if they can work out who or what it is, why it was in the news and if possible which year was it? Each group should write their answers on their Answer sheet.

When the majority have finished doing this, hand out the envelopes with the event descriptions and the dates for matching.

Encourage the children and older people to take turns to read out loud one of the descriptions and then try to match it to the appropriate date and picture. If there is time the events could then be arranged in order by year.

Go through the **Picture Quiz of the 1970's Answers**, once you think all the groups have had enough time on this activity. If there is time you can start to create the 1970's timeline – see Topic 2.

1970's Picture Quiz

Here are 15 pictures that all have a connection with the 1970's.
Who or what are they and why were they in the news? Do you also
know which year in the 1970's they were in the news?



1

2



3

4



5



6



7

21 → 18

8



9



10



11



12



13



14



15



Picture Quiz Answer sheet

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

8.

9.

10.

11.

12.

13.

14.

15.

TIMELINE OF 1970's EVENTS

1970	The British voting age was lowered from 21 to 18.
1970	The Conservatives won the General Election and Edward Heath became Prime Minister. Although he only served as a Prime Minister for 4 years he was an MP for 51 years from 1950 to 2001.
1971	Decimal currency was introduced to the UK on 15 th February 1971. Prior to 1971, there were 12 pennies to the shilling and 20 shillings to the pound. There were also guineas, half crowns, threepenny bits, sixpences and florins.
1972	The miners went on strike in the UK for 7 weeks; resulting in the introduction by the Government of the 3 day week. Commercial users of electricity were limited to 3 consecutive days' consumption each week. Electricity was switched off to domestic users on a rota basis.
1973	Britain officially joined the European Economic Community on 1 st January 1973.
1974	There were two General Elections in 1974, the first in April resulted in a hung Parliament and Harold Wilson became Prime Minister. At a second election in October, Labour won with a majority of just 3 seats.
1974	3 Chinese farmers who were drilling holes in the hopes of finding water discovered the 2,200 year-old remains of a life-sized, terracotta army which had been buried with Qin Shihuangdi, China's very first emperor.
1975	On 16th May 1975, Junko Tabei became the first woman to reach the summit of Mount Everest. She was a Japanese mountaineer, author, and teacher.

1976	The driest summer in the UK since 1727. The Drought Act came into force on 6 August. Water levels were very low in many reservoirs. Outdoor taps known as standpipes were in use in many districts, one for every 20 houses. The slogan "Save Water, Bath with a Friend" appeared everywhere!
1976	On 21 st January Concorde's first commercial flight took place from London Heathrow to Bahrain. Built by Britain and France, Concorde could fly at about 2,100 kilometres per hour. Concorde operated from 1976 until 2003.
1977	The celebrations for Queen Elizabeth II's Silver Jubilee began on 6 th February 1977, 25 years after her accession to the throne. It is estimated that she and The Duke of Edinburgh travelled 56,000 miles during the year.
1977	Red Rum won the Grand National for the 3 rd time, a record that still stands today. He also won in 1973 and 1974 and came second in 1975 and 1976!
1978	Louise Joy Brown was born on the 25 th of July. She was the world's first so-called 'test tube baby'. Patrick Steptoe, a consultant gynaecologist, and Robert Edwards, a research physiologist, had been developing their techniques of in vitro (in glass) fertilisation since the mid-1960s.
1979	On 4 th May the Labour Government were beaten by the Conservatives and Margaret Thatcher became Britain's first female Prime Minister. She was to be the longest serving Prime Minister of the 20th Century 1979 – 1990.
1979	Mother Theresa was awarded the Nobel Peace prize "for work undertaken in the struggle to overcome poverty and distress, which also constitutes a threat to peace". When she received the prize she was asked, "What can we do to promote world peace?" She answered, "Go home and love your family."

Picture Quiz of the 1970's Answers

Picture No.	Year	Description of Event
1	1970	The Conservatives won the general election and Edward Heath became Prime Minister . Although he only served as a Prime Minister for 4 years he was an MP for 51 years from 1950 to 2001.
2	1976	On 21 st January Concorde's first commercial flight took place from London Heathrow to Bahrain. Built by Britain and France, Concorde could fly at about 2,100 kilometres per hour. Concorde operated from 1976 until 2003.
3	1977	Red Rum won the Grand National for the 3rd time , a record that still stands today. He had also won in 1973 and 1974 and came second in 1975 and 1976!
4	1971	Decimal currency was introduced to the UK on 15 th February 1971. Prior to 1971, there were 12 pennies to the shilling and 20 shillings to the pound. There were also guineas, half crowns, threepenny bits, sixpences and florins.
5	1975	On 16th May 1975, Junko Tabei became the first woman to reach the summit of Mount Everest . She was a Japanese mountaineer, author, and teacher.
6	1974	There were two General Elections in 1974, the first in April resulted in a hung Parliament and Harold Wilson became Prime Minister. At a second election in October, Labour won with a majority of just 3 seats.
7	1970	The British voting age was lowered from 21 to 18 .
8	1978	Louise Joy Brown was born on the 25th of July. She was the world's first so-called 'test tube baby' . Patrick Steptoe, a consultant gynaecologist, and Robert Edwards, a research physiologist, had been developing their techniques of in vitro (in glass) fertilisation since the mid-1960s.
9	1977	The celebrations for Queen Elizabeth II's Silver Jubilee began on February 6th, 1977. This was 25 years from the day that she acceded to the throne. During the year it was estimated that The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh travelled 56,000 miles, visiting all parts of the UK and many Commonwealth countries.

Picture No.	Year	Description of Event
10	1976	The driest summer in the UK since 1727. The Drought Act came into force on 6 August. Water levels were very low in many reservoirs. Outdoor taps known as standpipes were in use in many districts, one for every 20 houses. The slogan "Save Water, Bath with a Friend" appeared everywhere!
11	1974	The Terracotta Army was discovered in China. 3 Chinese farmers who were drilling holes in the hopes of finding water discovered the 2,200 year-old remains of a life-sized, terracotta army which had been buried with Qin Shihuangdi, China's very first emperor.
12	1979	On 4 th May the Labour Government were beaten by the Conservatives and Margaret Thatcher became Britain's first female Prime Minister. She was to be the longest serving Prime Minister of the 20th Century 1979 – 1990.
13	1979	Mother Theresa was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize "for work undertaken in the struggle to overcome poverty and distress, which also constitutes a threat to peace". When Mother Teresa received the prize she was asked, "What can we do to promote world peace?" She answered, "Go home and love your family."
14	1973	Britain officially joined the European Economic Community on 1 st January 1973.
15	1972	The miners went on strike in the UK for 7 weeks; resulting in the introduction by the Government of the 3 day week. Commercial users of electricity were limited to 3 consecutive days' consumption each week. Electricity was switched off to domestic users on a rota basis.

1970's Picture Quiz - Photo Acknowledgements

1. Edward Heath - Allan Warren, CC BY-SA 3.0, via Wikimedia Commons
2. Concorde - Eduard Marmet, CC BY-SA 3.0 GFDL 1.2, via Wikimedia Commons
3. Red Rum at Castle Park, Bristol 1980 – Rick Weston from UK, CC BY 2.0, via Wikimedia Commons
4. Old penny - CC BY-SA 3.0, via Wikimedia Commons
5. Junko Tabei - Jaan Künnap, CC BY-SA 4.0, via Wikimedia Commons
Mount Everest - Wang Lama Humla, CC BY-SA 4.0, via Wikimedia Commons
6. Harold Wilson - Unknown photographer, Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons
7. N/a
8. Louise Brown Louise just after her birth, with Patrick Steptoe (right) and Robert Edwards <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/health/3091241.stm>
9. The Queen's Silver Jubilee - The Queen at the unveiling of a scented garden for the blind in Cleethorpes 1977
- East Riding Archives, No restrictions, via Wikimedia Commons
10. Low water in Upper Neuadd Reservoir, Wales in 1976
- Dr Mary Gillham Archive Project, CC BY 2.0, via Wikimedia Commons
11. Terracotta Army - see source, CC BY-SA 3.0, via Wikimedia Commons
12. Margaret Thatcher - Probably Terence Donovan, Copyrighted free use, via Wikimedia Commons
13. Mother Theresa - Kingkongphoto & www.celebrity-photos.com from Laurel Maryland, USA, CC BY-SA 2.0 via Wikimedia Commons
14. European Flag - Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons

Topic 2 - Adults' memories of the 1970's

Children and older people should work in small groups for this topic. We found it worked well to stay in the same groups as for Topic 1. The aim of this session is for the children to find out from the adults about what was happening in their lives during this decade and to create a timeline combining world, national and personal events. We encouraged the adults to bring photos or other memorabilia from the 1970's to this session.

For this topic you will need :

- i) Large piece of paper for creating timeline (e.g. back of wallpaper/ lining paper)
- ii) Scissors and glue sticks
- iii) Plain paper, pencils, coloured pencils, ruler
- iv) Adults' photos or other memorabilia from the 1970's if available

Encourage the children to ask the adults about what was happening in their lives during the 1970's and encourage the adults to show the children their photos or other memorabilia from the 1970's. Encourage the children to make brief notes and then write them out neatly to add to the timeline. Encourage the children (and adults if they wish) to do a small drawing if appropriate.

In the meantime ask 2 or 3 children to help add the world and national events to the timeline. Then add the adults' memories.



Topic 3 – 1970's Inventions

Children and older people should work in pairs or small groups for this topic. The aim of the session is for the children and adults to learn about several inventions of the 1970's and to reflect on the difference that they have made to people's lives. Before the session you could ask the adults if they have anything that they could bring to the session – for example an early mobile phone or Walkman.

For this topic you will need:

- i) Several copies of Inventions of the 1970's factsheet
- ii) Several copies of Inventions of the 1970's Wordsearch
- iii) 1 copy of the 1970's Wordsearch Answers
- iv) Several copies of How many words can you make out of the word "Microwave"
- v) Paper and pencils

In small group or pairs the adults and children should take turns to read from the factsheet which includes several questions for the adults and/or children to answer. You could encourage the children to make some notes about what they learn from the adults. If you feel that a group has completed this activity you could give them the wordsearch or "Microwave" word game until the other groups have finished. When everyone has finished reading the factsheet, have a group discussion about the impact some of these inventions have had on people's lives and have a look at any memorabilia that the adults have brought along.

If there is time hand out/continue the Wordsearch and/or "Microwave" word game.



Inventions of the 1970's

During the 1970's many of the things which we now take for granted in our homes either did not exist or had only recently been invented.

For example, although most people had a **television** at the start of the 1970s, it was probably black and white. At that time there were just three TV channels - ITV, BBC1 and BBC2. Colour broadcasting had only begun in 1967 on BBC2 and in 1969 on BBC1 and ITV. Colour TVs became cheaper throughout the 1970's and were much more common by the end of the decade although they were by no means universal.

Question for children to ask adults - *Do you remember getting your first colour television?*

Video cassette recorders (VCR's) were developed in the 1970's enabling you to record programmes to watch later. However they were initially very expensive and it was not until the 1980's that sales started to take off. By 1982, 10% of households in the United Kingdom owned a VCR. The figure reached 30% in 1985 and by the end of the decade well over half of British homes owned a VCR.



A Philips N1500 video cassette recorder, with wooden cabinet ¹

Question for children to ask adults - *Do you remember getting a video cassette recorder? What difference did it make to the way you watched television?*



In 1979 the Japanese technology company Sony launched the “**Walkman**” which was a portable audio cassette player. By 2010, when production stopped, Sony had built about 200 million of them.

Original Sony Walkman from 1979 ²

Question for children to ask adults - *Did you have a Walkman? If yes, when did you use it?*

During the 1970's the number of UK households who had a **washing machine** increased from 65% in 1970 to 80% in 1979.

Question for children to ask adults - *Do you remember getting your first washing machine? What was it like? What difference did it make?*

Although **freezers** were available in the 1960s it was not until the 1970's that freezer ownership increased dramatically. In 1970 around 100,000 freezers were sold which was three times as many as in 1967. However by 1974, one in ten households had a freezer.



Frozen berries ³

Question for children to ask adults - *Do you remember getting your first freezer? What difference did it make to the way you shopped and the sort of food you bought?*

Microwave ovens became available in Britain at the end of the 1970's but initially some people had fears about their safety and for many people they were just too expensive. It was not until the 1980's that they really became popular.



A microwave oven from the early 70's ⁴

The history of the microwave had begun in 1940 when two English physicists, John Randall and Harry Boot, invented the cavity magnetron tube at Birmingham University. The magnetron tube quickly became very important during World War II as it was used by the Allied forces of Europe and America to emit microwave radar signals to detect distant enemy aircraft and ships.

In 1945, the heating effect of a high-power microwave beam was accidentally discovered by Percy Spencer, an American engineer as he was carrying out maintenance work on a live radar set. Whilst working close to the radar equipment he felt a tingling sensation in his body and noticed that a chocolate bar in his pocket had completely melted. After further investigation he concluded that it was the microwaves being emitted by the magnetron tube in the radar set which had caused the chocolate to get warm enough to melt.

He then experimented further by directing the magnetron tube at kernels of corn which resulted in the first microwave popcorn! He then went on to build a metal box with an opening on one side and the magnetron tube poking through. He used this box to heat his lunches and experimented with other foods. This included heating a

whole egg in the device which unfortunately exploded in his colleague's face. Adding a door to close the box prevented any further similar accidents.

Questions for children and adults – *Do you have a microwave? What sorts of things do you use it for? What sorts of things shouldn't you put in a microwave?*



The first **digital electronic watch** was the Pulsar. Developed in America these early watches had an 18 carat gold case and a red light-emitting diode (LED) display. They sold for 2,100 US dollars which was extremely expensive and out of most peoples' reach. However in the mid 70's they started to be mass produced in a plastic case and the price dropped to just 20 dollars, falling to 10 dollars in 1976.

*A Pulsar Ladies' LED Watch from 1976*⁵

Questions for children and adults - *Have you ever owned a digital watch? Do you remember getting your first watch? How old would you have been? What type of watch was it?*

Pocket calculators were available in the early 1970's but like digital watches they were initially very expensive. They became popular in the mid 70's as the incorporation of integrated circuits (microchips) reduced their size and cost. By the end of the 70's prices had dropped to the point where a basic calculator was affordable for most people and they became common in schools.



*A Casio pocket calculator*⁶

Questions for adults - *What difference do you think it would have made to you if calculators had been around during your school days?*



The first **personal computers** were being manufactured by the end of the 70's. However it was not until the 1980's that they started to become really popular and it was not until 1991 that the World Wide Web was opened to the public giving billions of people around the world access to the internet.

1973 Xerox Alto computer ⁷

Questions for adults - *Do you have a computer? If so, what difference has it made to your life?*

Question for children – *What sorts of things do you use a computer for?*

Motorola was the first company to produce a handheld **mobile phone**. On 3rd April 1973, Martin Cooper, a Motorola researcher and executive, made the first mobile



telephone call when he phoned his rival, Dr Joel S. Engel of Bell Labs. The prototype handheld phone used by Dr. Cooper weighed 2 kilograms (4.4 lb) and was 23 centimetres (9.1 inches) long. The prototype offered a talk time of just 30 minutes and took 10 hours to re-charge.

It would be another 10 years before mobile phones became available commercially but initially they were extremely expensive. It was not until the 1990's that mobile phones became more affordable and increasingly popular.

Martin Cooper photographed in 2007 with his handheld mobile phone prototype ⁸

Questions for adults and children - *Do you have a mobile phone? If so, what do you use it for?*

Photographs with thanks to

1. *A Philips N1500 video cassette recorder, with wooden cabinet*
[Colin McCormick \(colin99.co.uk\)](#), [CC BY-SA 3.0](#), via Wikimedia Commons
2. *Original Sony Walkman from 1979*
Binarysequence, CC BY-SA 4.0 , via Wikimedia Commons
3. *Frozen berries*
I saw_that, PDM-owner, via Wikimedia Commons
4. *A 1970's microwave*
Pamperchu, CC BY-SA 4.0, via Wikimedia Commons
5. *A Pulsar Ladies' LED Watch from 1976*
Alison Cassidy, CC BY-SA 3.0, via Wikipedia Commons
6. *A Casio pocket calculator*
Mc681, CC BY-SA 4.0, via Wikipedia Commons
7. *1973 Xerox Alto computer*
taken by [<http://flickr.com/photos/map/17692658/> Martin Pittenauer]
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8. *1973 Motorola mobile phone prototype*
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1970's INVENTIONS WORDSEARCH

Can you find the 10 words below hidden here?

G K C X Z S P D J N M V L M M Z W
D M A A G Z H S O F P D S Q Z K R
F Y Y Z S W N I G E F B C V E G V
W E J T V S S Z F P C T T K M X A
G Z N V I I E G X A W U H A R L T
H Y R I V M C T L T A X H Q R G X
G U Z E H F X C T S L O Q M Z T G
G C L G O C U Q F E K N T I E H V
A E M P C L A I X A M O N C C A N
T G D V A N K M Y U A L H R U G M
A S W T D K O V G H N N U O F L E
W Z O C H V F R H N O N S W P W S
A R E T U P M O C L I A Z A U K G
F R O Z E N F O O D D H U V J A E
O J C E G R D G K K O B S E W R I
A Q S V W H Y P N S P D D A G C G
A P I H C O R C I M B F E E W E B

Television Cassette Technology Walkman
Washing Machine Microchip Calculator Computer
Frozen Food Microwave

1970's INVENTIONS ANSWERS

G K **C** X Z S P D J **N** M V L M M Z W
 D M A **A** G Z H S **O** F P D S Q Z K R
 F Y Y Z **S** W N **I** G E F B C V E G V
 W **E** J T V **S** **S** Z F P **C** T T K M X A
 G Z **N** V I **I** E G X **A** **W** U H A R L T
 H Y R **I** **V** M C **T** **L** T **A** X H Q R G X
 G U Z **E** **H** F X **C** **T** S **L** O Q **M** Z **T** G
 G C **L** G O **C** **U** Q F **E** **K** N T **I** **E** H V
 A **E** M P C **L** **A** I X A **M** O N **C** C A N
T G D V **A** N K **M** Y U **A** L **H** **R** U G M
 A S W **T** D K O V **G** H **N** **N** U **O** F L E
 W Z **O** C H V F R H **N** **O** N S **W** P W S
 A **R** **E** **T** **U** **P** **M** **O** **C** **L** **I** A Z **A** U K G
F **R** **O** **Z** **E** **N** **F** **O** **O** **D** D **H** U V J A E
 O J C E G R D **G** K K O B **S** **E** W R I
 A Q S V W H Y P N S P D D **A** G C G
 A **P** **I** **H** **C** **O** **R** **C** **I** **M** B F E E **W** E B

Television	Cassette	Technology	Walkman
Washing Machine	Microchip	Calculator	Computer
	Frozen Food	Microwave	

How many words of three letters or more
can you make out of the word “Microwave.”

Topic 4 – 1970's Music

Children and older people should work in small groups for this topic which explores music from the 1970's. We were fortunate to have one member of our group who was very knowledgeable about the topic and he brought along lots of records and music magazines.

For this topic you will need :

- i) Several copies of the Music of the 1970's Factsheet
- ii) Several copies of the Music of the 1970's Quiz and one copy of the Answers
- iii) Several copies of the Music of the 1970's Word Scramble and one copy of the Answers
- iv) Paper and Pencils
- v) 1970's music memorabilia – if possible



In small group the adults and children should take turns to read from the "Music in the 1970's" Factsheet. Encourage everyone to discuss the photos and share thoughts as they are reading. We found that many of the adults and some of the children were very familiar with many of the bands and their music.

Collect in the Factsheets when everyone has finished reading and hand out the Quiz.

Give out the Word Scramble if some groups finish reading the Factsheet or complete the Quiz more quickly than others.

Go through the Quiz Answers when everyone has finished and continue with the Word Scramble, if not already completed.

Listen to some 1970's music, perhaps whilst you are having refreshments.

Music of the 1970's

There was more variety in music in the 1970's than ever before. Music listeners had dozens of genre to choose from and many of them rose to popularity at different points during the decade. It also marked the end of an era with the Beatles dissolving due to disagreements within the band.

The youngest of the teenage market had crushes on pop stars like David Essex and Donny Osmond. Out of the American family band "The Jackson 5" came Michael



Jackson who began his solo career aged 12 whilst David Cassidy came to fame from the American TV show "The Partridge Family".

Swedish group ABBA won the Eurovision song contest in 1974 with "Waterloo" and went on to become a group that is still very popular today.

ABBA in 1974 ¹

In the early 1970's mainstream pop was moving to glam rock which was a style of rock music that developed in the United Kingdom and was performed by musicians who wore outrageous costumes, makeup and hairstyles.

The appearance of Marc Bolan from the band T. Rex, wearing glitter on his face and performing "Hot Love" on the BBC's music show "Top of the Pops" in March 1971, is often considered to be the start of the glam rock movement.



Marc Bolan in concert in 1973 ²



Other British glam rock artists included the group Slade who had a run of success with their outlandish costumes and platform shoes. Their best-selling single, "Merry Xmas Everybody", which was released in 1973, has sold in excess of one million copies and remains very popular today.

Slade on a Dutch TV Show in 1973 ³

Meanwhile David Bowie created a fictional character **Ziggy Stardust** who became his stage persona during 1972 and 1973. His shows included several make up and costume changes.

David Bowie during the Ziggy Stardust Tour 1972 ⁴



Other popular artists such as Elton John, Rod Stewart and Freddie Mercury of Queen, all adopted glam styles. Elton John wore flamboyant outfits with oversize glasses and boots whilst Queen became the ultimate rock group of the decade using the new idea of a pop video to promote their music.

Queen performing in Newhaven, Connecticut in November 1977 ⁵

By 1976 Punk Rock had become a major influence in the UK and bands such as the Sex Pistols outraged many of the older generation with their anti-establishment lyrics and extreme makeup and hairstyles. Meanwhile disco mania reached its peak in 1977 with the success of the film Saturday Night Fever starring John Travolta and the music of the Bee Gees.

The 1970's music scene continues to have a major influence on popular music today and many of the new music genres of that decade have become staples of the modern era. Many of the bands from the 1970's are still performing today, although often not with all the original band members. There are also many tribute bands that have been set up, some of which have become extremely popular in their own right.



Deep Purple in 1971 ⁶

Here is just a small selection of other popular bands from the 1970's:

Deep Purple – held the Guinness World Record for the loudest concert in 1972, causing some members of the public to fall unconscious.

Bay City Rollers – This Scottish teen-idol pop rock band were notable for their tartan outfits. Beginning with "Remember" in 1974 (UK No. 6), the Rollers' popularity exploded, and they released a string of hits on the UK chart. By early 1975, they were one of the biggest-selling acts in the UK. Their successful 1975 UK tour prompted newspaper headlines about the rise of "Rollermania" (a take-off on Beatlemania a decade earlier).



Bay City Rollers in Holland in 1976 ⁷

Pink Floyd – their album "Dark side of the Moon" was one of the best-selling albums of the 1970's and stayed in the UK Top 100 for 555 weeks.

The Rolling Stones - once considered the greatest rock and roll band of the world and still performing 5 decades later.



Black Sabbath – often cited as the pioneers of heavy metal music. The band had multiple line-up changes following the departure of vocalist Ozzy Osbourne in 1979.

Black Sabbath in 1970 ⁸

The Eagles – an American rock band which formed in Los Angeles in 1971 with "Hotel California" still a very popular single.

Genesis – an English rock band formed at Charterhouse School, Godalming, Surrey, in 1967. Three of the founding members including Phil Collins, toured together in 2022 with their last performance in London on 26th March.

Questions for the children to ask the adults:

- *Do you have a favourite band from the 1970's?*
- *Have you ever seen them perform?*
- *Do you still listen to their music?*

Access to music in the 1970's was very restricted compared to what we enjoy today. It was the golden era for vinyl records - singles or "45's" and LP's or long players.



A "45" single ⁹

Cassette tapes were widely used to record and listen to music. All these formats had two sides - hence the terms "flip side" and "B side".



A Philips Cassette recorder ¹⁰

Before the internet, many people's access to music was through the radio or television. BBC's Radio 1 was the primary station for pop music and the weekly chart show was a "not to be missed" event. BBC 1's Top of the Pops was extremely popular and the DJs were elevated to stardom during this decade.



Top of the Pops (TOTP) ¹¹ was the world's longest-running weekly music show. It was broadcast weekly between 1st January 1964 and 30th July 2006. For most of its history, it was broadcast on Thursday evenings on BBC One. Each show consisted of performances of some of the week's best-selling popular music records and included a rundown of that week's singles chart.

1970's Music Quiz (12 points possible)

1) Whose performance is often considered to be the start of Glam Rock ?

.....

2) What were the Bay City Rollers known for?

.....

3) What was the name of Michael Jackson's first group?

.....

4) Which year did Abba win the Eurovision song contest and with which song?
(2 points)

.....

5) Name a British music chart television programme in the 70's?

.....

6) Which band had a hit with "Hotel California"?

.....

7) Name a punk rock band

.....

8) Who starred in the film Saturday Night Fever?

.....

9) What was the name of David Bowie's fictional character?

.....

10) Which band had a hit with "Dark side of the Moon" and for how many weeks was it in the top 100 ? (2 points)

.....

1970's Music Quiz Answers – 12 points possible

1. Marc Bolan (from band T-Rex)

2. Tartan outfits

3. Jackson Five

4. 1974 , Waterloo

5. Top of the Pops

6. The Eagles

7. Sex Pistols

8. John Travolta

9. Ziggy Stardust

10. Pink Floyd, 555 weeks

Music in the 1970's Word Scramble

Can you unscramble these 12 singers or bands from the 1970's?

1. DDVAI OWIEB _____
2. NPKI FDLYO _____
3. ONDYN OONDSM _____
4. DOR WRAETTS _____
5. IECLMAH NCOKASJ _____
6. TELNO HJON _____
7. ABY YCIT LSLERRO _____
8. NOJH AORATVTL _____
9. EDEP RULPPE _____
10. SIENSEG _____
11. BBAA _____
12. KLABC BTABASH _____

Music in the 1970's Word Scramble Answers

1. DDVAI OWIEB David Bowie
2. NPKI FDLYO Pink Floyd
3. ONDYN OONDSM Donny Osmond
4. DOR WRAETTS Rod Stewart
5. IECLMAH NCOKASJ Michael Jackson
6. TELNO HJON Elton John
7. ABY YCIT LSLERRO Bay City Rollers
8. NOJH AORATVTL John Travolta
9. EDEP RULPPE Deep Purple
10. SIENSEG Genesis
11. BBAA Abba
12. KLABC BTABASH Black Sabbath

Music of the 1970's

Photograph Acknowledgements

1. Abba in 1974 - AVRO, CC BY-SA 3.0 NL, via Wikimedia Commons
2. Marc Bolan in concert in 1973 - ABC Television, Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons
3. Slade on a Dutch TV show in 1973 - AVRO, CC BY-SA 3.0 NL, via Wikimedia Commons
4. David Bowie on tour 1972 - Rik Walton, CC BY-SA 2.0, via Wikimedia Commons
5. Queen 1977 - Carl Lender, CC BY-SA 3.0, via Wikimedia Commons
6. Deep Purple in 1971 - Warner Bros. Records, Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons
- 7 Bay City Rollers in Holland in 1976 - Rob Bogaerts (ANEFO), CC0, via Wikimedia Commons
- 8 Black Sabbath - Warner Bros. Records, Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons
- 9 A 45 single - SageGreenRider, CC BY-SA 4.0, via Wikimedia Commons
- 10 Philips Cassette Recorder from 1968 - mib18 at German Wikipedia, CC BY-SA 3.0, via Wikimedia Commons
- 11 Tops of the Pops logo - BBC, Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons

Topic 5 – 1970's Fashion

Children and older people should work in small groups for this topic which explores fashion from the 1970's. Before the session we asked the adults if they still had any 1970's outfits which they would be willing to bring along for the children to try on. We were amazed at what people brought and the children absolutely loved dressing up! We also encouraged the adults to bring photos of themselves from the 1970's.

For this topic you will need :

- i) Several copies of the 1970's Fashion Factsheet
- ii) Several copies of the 1970's Fashion Wordsearch and one copy of the Answers
- iii) Plain paper, pencils and coloured pencils for fashion designs
- iv) 1970's fashions and/or photos

In small group the adults and children should take turns to read from the "1970's Fashion" Factsheet. Encourage everyone to discuss the photos in the Factsheet and share thoughts as they are reading.

Collect in the Factsheets when everyone has finished reading and discussing.

Give out the Word Search as groups finish reading the Factsheet.

Give out plain paper, pencils and coloured pencils and encourage everyone to draw a 1970's fashion picture.

Make sure you also leave plenty of time for the children to try on the 1970s' fashions and/or to look at any photos the adults have brought along.



1970's Fashion

The 1970's was a decade of great change in fashion greatly influenced by the changes that were happening in the music scene. Different groups identified with both the different music genres and their matching fashion styles.

The classic look was bell-bottoms (trousers flared from the knee down, often with large bottom leg openings). They were generally made from denim or bright coloured cotton and were often worn with fitted shirts.



However during this decade fashion was very varied and individual. For women platform boots, kaftan dresses, hot pants, smock dresses, halter neck tops and floppy hats were some of the many items worn. Skirts and dresses varied in length from mini to midi to ankle length maxis.

Cheesecloth was another popular material but also synthetic fabrics such as polyester flooded the market in the 70's and clothing could be bought at any price point.

Woman wearing bell bottom jeans in the mid 1970's ¹

More examples of 1970's fashion



Bell bottomed trousers and hot pants ²



Suede fringed mini skirt ³

Children's fashion followed adult fashion with bold plaids and bright colours with the distinction between genders lessening through the decade as both boys and girls wore jeans, trousers and t-shirts.

Early 70's fashion – The Hippie Look

The hippie look had begun developing in the late 60's and peaked in the early 70's, making items such as bell-bottoms, tie-dye tops, frayed jeans, crochet dresses, ponchos and brightly coloured ethnic designs a part of mainstream fashion.



A tie dyed shirt ⁴

Accessories for early 70's hippie outfits included chokers, headbands, flowing scarves and jewellery made of wood, stones, feathers and beads. Men wore bright colours and textures, satin shirts with oversized collars, sometimes with ruffles or lace, often paired with hip-hugging bell-bottoms.

The Mid 70's

Women often wore fitted T-shirts often with elaborate design, slogans and sports logos. Women became more equal in the workforce leading to business suits, which included tailored jackets and fitted midi skirts with high heels.



A punk rocker in the early 70's ⁵

While suits for men were still popular for all occasions, informal styles included flannel or western shirts, jeans, leather jackets and oxford shoes. By contrast along with punk rock came tight black trousers, leather jackets and Dr Marten boots (usually known as Doc Martens). Clothes were slashed and ripped, embellished with safety pins, zips and studs.



Doc Martens boots ⁶



Glam rock also influenced fashion at this time with outrageous costumes, makeup and hairstyles.

The photo is an example of Glam Rock style worn by Roy Wood and Wizzard in the early 1970s.⁷

Late 70's

Disco took over fashion in the late 70's. Disco style for women included jersey wrap dresses, sequined shirts and hot pants with boots or chunky heels. Women's clothes also became more relaxed by becoming baggier and more revealing. Cowl-neck shirts, jumpsuits, strapless tops, embroidered vests and jeans or tight fitting denim shorts were all popular. Colour palettes took a turn to more earthy tones in browns, tans and greys.

For men, three piece suits with wide lapels and flared trousers were popular in powder blue, beige and white. John Travolta's character in Saturday Night Fever is a good example of disco style for men. The disco alternative was sportswear which included tracksuits, jumpsuits, cardigans, puffer vests and low top trainers.

Popular fashion stores in the 70's included Biba which started in the 1960's. In 1973 it moved into the seven-storey former Derry and Tom's department store in Kensington High Street and soon became one of the most visited tourist attractions in London. The store had a glamour art deco interior and was full of Biba merchandise that also included baked beans, eggs and washing flakes! However the store was not a success and closed less than two years later although the Biba brand has been relaunched several times since.

The 1970s are one of the most revisited decades when it comes to fashion. Its wide variety of styles continue to influence both fashion designers and fashion lovers.

What styles from the 1970's do you still wear today?

1970's Fashion Wordsearch

Can you find the 15 words below hidden here?

Y V M W O I G B D W L E D F Y S T
B V F R P U S N G Z Y B E E E B P
T W L A E S Q X P E S A O Q E L H
D V A B E N K X L V T Y U A A R H
V A R Q Y W G W B H V I D T S G O
T G E M D U H I E H N S F K E V T
Z T S N E W Q R S S N O A B L K P
Y E X S I E S U X E R C O H F V A
D K W Z T A B I B M D M F X F K N
O E K B E B A B B C R P R Z U F T
O M N V I E F O J E F N I O R W S
I V V I V D O I H L L P N P B S P
R Y H B M T Z T T C S X B A O A X
N K U T S D A U B E K X G N U O B
P Y N A R E K S E V R A C S F J Z
U H G N L L S K C E M J S Z L B H
D C L E Q S S M O T T O B L L E B

Denim	Leather	Feathers	Designer	Hot pants
Biba	Tie dye	Platform boots	Sequins	Zips
Ruffles	Bellbottoms	Flares	Beads	Scarves

1970's Fashion Wordsearch Answers

Y V M W O I G B D W L E D F Y S T
B V F R P U S N G Z Y B E E E B P
T W L A E S Q X P E S A O Q E L H
D V A B E N K X L V T Y U A A R H
V A R Q Y W G W B H V I D T S G O
T G E M D U H I E H N S F K E V T
Z T S N E W Q R S S N O A B L K P
Y E X S I E S U X E R C O H F V A
D K W Z T A B I B M D M F X F K N
O E K B E B A B B C R P R Z U F T
O M N V I E F O J E F N I O R W S
I V V I V D O I H L L P N P B S P
R Y H B M T Z T T C S X B A O A X
N K U T S D A U B E K X G N U O B
P Y N A R E K S E V R A C S F J Z
U H G N L L S K C E M J S Z L B H
D C L E Q S S M O T T O B L L E B

Denim	Leather	Feathers	Designer	Hot pants
Biba	Tie dye	Platform boots	Sequins	Zips
Ruffles	Bellbottoms	Flares	Beads	Scarves

Examples of Drawings of 1970's Fashion Design



Acknowledgements - Photographs of 1970's fashions

1. Woman wearing bell bottom jeans in the mid 1970's
Mike Powell, CC BY-SA 2.0, via Wikimedia Commons
2. Bell bottomed trousers and hot pants
C. Erik Ridderstedt for LJP, Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons
3. Suede fringed mini skirt
Justso, CC BY-SA 3.0, via Wikimedia Commons
4. Tie dyed T shirt
MpegMan CC BY-SA 3.0, via Wikimedia Commons
5. An early punk rocker
No machine-readable author provided. Gilui assumed (based on copyright claims) CC BY-SA 2.5 , via Wikimedia Commons
6. Doc Martens
User Vuglusk on en.wikipedia, Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons
7. Example of Glam Rock style worn by Roy Wood and Wizard - early 1970's.
AVRO, CC BY-SA 3.0 NL >via Wikimedia Commons

Topic 6 – 1970's Games

Children and older people should work in small groups for this topic which focusses on games that first appeared in the shops in the 1970's. It starts with a quiz but most of the session is taken up with playing the games.

For this topic you will need :

- i) Several copies of the 1970's Games – descriptions
- ii) Several copies of the 1970's Games – pictures
- iii) One copy of the 1970's Games – answers
- iv) A good selection of 1970's games
- v) Ordinary playing cards and dominoes – as a back up
- vi) Pencils

The children and adults work in small groups for this activity. First of all hand out the description sheets of 1970's games. The aim is to identify as many games as they can just from the descriptions given. When you feel that they have had enough time, hand out the pictures sheet. How many of the games can they now name correctly?

Go through the answers and have a discussion about the different games. Which ones have people played before?

The rest of the session is taken up with playing games. We found that each group had a go at 2 or 3 of the different games in the time available. Of the 1970's games we had available we found Uno and Connect Four were particularly popular. To ensure we had enough games available we also provided ordinary playing cards and dominoes as these would have been very popular in the 1970's as they still are today.



1970's Games

Here are descriptions for 10 games that were all invented in the 1970's.
Can you name the game?

1. A code-breaking game for two players involving coloured pegs. Invented in 1970 it is based on an older, paper based game called Bulls and Cows.
2. A two-player game first marketed in 1970 involving numbered discs and dials. The aim is to move your discs in order to the bottom of the board.
3. A word game invented in 1972 in which players try to make as many words as they can from a grid of lettered dice, within a set time limit.
4. A two player game invented in 1974. The objective is to form a horizontal, vertical, or diagonal line of four of your tokens while preventing your opponent from doing the same.
5. First manufactured in 1979 this is a two-player board game where each player aims to identify their opponent's chosen character.

6. Invented in 1978 this electronic game of short-term memory skill involves a disc with four coloured buttons.
7. A game for 2 to 10 players originally developed in 1971 with red, blue, yellow and green cards as well as various action cards.
8. Invented in 1977 and based on an old dice game, this game for 2 to 4 players involves small playing pieces which players take turn to throw. A player gains or loses points or is eliminated from the game based on the way their playing pieces land.
9. A six sided combination puzzle originally invented in 1974 and first licensed for sale in the UK in 1978.
10. A board game for 2 to 4 players invented in 1974. The object is to be the player who has the most cash and savings at the end of the game.



1970's Games - Answers

1. Mastermind
2. Downfall
3. Boggle
4. Connect Four
5. Guess Who?
6. Simon
7. Uno
8. Pass the Pigs
9. Rubik's Cube
10. Pay Day

Acknowledgements - Photographs of 1970's Games

1. Mastermind
User:ZeroOne, CC BY-SA 2.0, via Wikimedia Commons
2. Downfall
Chaheel Riens, CC BY-SA 4.0 , via Wikimedia Commons
3. Boggle
Stilfehler, CC BY-SA 3.0, via Wikimedia Commons
4. Connect 4
Popperipopp, CC BY 3.0 , via Wikimedia Commons
5. Guess Who
Roland Balik, Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons
6. Simon
Shritwod, CC0, via Wikimedia Commons
7. Uno
https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Baraja_de_UNO.JPG
8. Pass the Pigs
Larry D. Moore, CC BY-SA 3.0, via Wikimedia Commons
9. The Rubik's Cube
Mike Gonzalez (TheCoffee), CC BY-SA 3.0, via Wikimedia Commons

Topic 7 - What was happening locally in the 1970's?

An impact report by Historic England in 2022¹ indicated that learning about local heritage improves children's sense of place and sense of pride in their local area.

Over the years the Burnham Intergenerational Project has often focussed on local history, particularly around the time of special anniversaries or national events such as Royal Jubilees or Coronations.

The 1970's saw many changes taking place in and around Burnham so it was an excellent decade to focus on with regard to local history. We are very fortunate to have a long established and dedicated group of local historians in Burnham who have written numerous books and articles documenting many aspects of village life. These were an excellent source of information and photographs as were back copies of our community newspaper Round and About.

From these sources we were able to create an information sheet, quiz and crossword based on life in Burnham in the 1970's. If you would like copies please email enquiries@learningandsharingtogether.org.uk

At the sessions the children also learned at first hand from the older people in the group who had lived in Burnham for many years. The adults who had moved to Burnham more recently also found the sessions very informative.



Learning together about Burnham in the 1970's

¹ [New Historic England Report Shows Learning About Local Heritage at School Improves Local Pride | Historic England](#)