

Learning Objectives

- 1) Realize that there is more to time than just hours, minutes, and seconds. The “past” (yesterday/long ago) and the “present” (today) are also important aspects of time.
- 2) Realize that many things change over a decade, more things change over a generation, and even more changes occur over a century.
- 3) Be able to use a time line to put events in order from past to present.
- 4) Realize that technology and ideas evolve over time.
 - a) Transportation has changed over time. Today, sophisticated automobiles and airplanes are used as transportation. Not very long ago, cars and airplanes were very simple, and just over a century ago, these innovations did not exist.
 - b) Conveniences have changed throughout the years. Over a century ago people had no electricity, they had to heat their homes using wood burning stoves or fireplaces. A generation ago there were no supermarkets that carried the special foods that are consumed today, they just carried the basics. A century ago many people had to get their water from a well instead of from the tap.
 - c) Fashions have evolved throughout the years. For example, a century ago women wore long dresses. Today, women wear long and short dresses; in fact, many women wear jeans.
 - d) Ideas about how people should be treated have also changed. A century ago many people were very often treated like second-class citizens because of the color of their skin or their religion. Today, it is no longer considered proper to treat people that way.
- 5) Notice that education has progressed over time. A century ago many students, especially those in pioneer families, had to go to school in one-room schoolhouses. Some children were not even able to attend school. Today, children have multi room facilities in which they can learn, and every child can go to school.
- 6) Realize that long ago, natives lived alone on the land of North America before the pioneers began to explore and claim the land. These natives lived off the land and thrived for centuries. However, as time progressed and the pioneers moved farther and farther west, the native population began to dwindle.
- 7) Understand that though many things have changed throughout time, some basic aspects of every day life have stayed the same. People have always been dependent on food, shelter, clothing, and transportation. Also, They have always had a want for entertainment; games played a century ago are still played today.

Suggested Activities

- 1) Before viewing the video
 - a) Have the students sit in a circle. Have all those who have grandparents stand up. Ask if anyone has great grandparents and have those children remain standing. *Long Ago, Yesterday, and Today*, compares the way things were when their grand parents were young with the way things are today.
- 2) After viewing the video
 - a) **Old Photographs:** Send a note home requesting that parents send one picture of their student's grandparent or any old family picture, one of the student as a baby, and a current picture of the student. Be sure to label each picture with the student's name. Do not be concerned if any of these pictures are not available. Make a bulletin board of the pictures, labeling three columns: Long Ago, Then, and Now. Have the students discuss how the pictures look the same and how they look different. With the parents' permission paste the pictures into a book called, *Long Ago, Yesterday, and Today*. Kindergartners can write the appropriate

words under each picture. First and second graders can write a sentence or two. Have the students tell the class some of the things they learned in the video that they could share with their families.

b) **Now and Then Game:** Divide the class in half. Select one student to be the scorekeeper. Make cards of the following words (adding more if desired): for now—car, computer, microwave oven, airplane, vacuum cleaner, electric refrigerator, disposable camera, telephone, electric lights, washing machine, trains, tractors, paved roads, television; for then—horse and buggy, covered wagon, wood stove, ice box, washboard, black and white camera, horse pulled plow, dirt trails, foot powered sewing machine, pony express. View the video once more. Hold up a card or say a word from the list. Each side must say “now” or “then.” A point is awarded for each correct response.

Vocabulary

Century — a 100 year period of time

Decade — a ten year period of time

Generation — usually the amount of time between the birth of parents and that of their children

Past — the period before the present

Present — the period of time in existence

