

---

## Summary

We use many things to complete our everyday tasks such as household appliances like this early toaster. How did people make toast before the toaster? Did the invention of this countertop appliance make our warm, crispy bread in the morning easier to make?

The Legacy Dallas collection has many objects that were used in daily life in the past, some from the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century. The objects in the slideshow may be familiar but uncommon in today's modern society. The items we use change over time or are replaced by something easier to use or has a better outcome. The selection of digitized objects represents things designed to make life easier, save time or simply have fun. See how many you can identify.

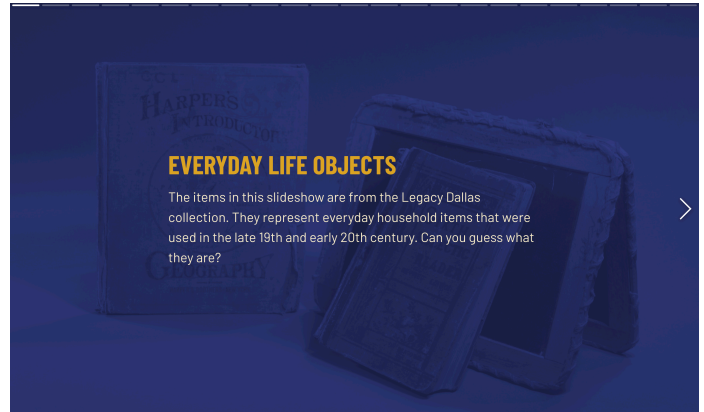


### Activity 1

#### Teacher Notes

Use the accompanying slideshow to view the photos of household items of past decades from the Legacy Dallas collection. Each one of these items had a specific household use. Click through each photo and give the students an opportunity to guess what the item is and how it was used. The activity can be used as a whole class discussion for younger students, or as an individual task using the answer sheet for older students. Another idea is to work in groups of 2-3 students with one student as a scribe to write down the answers. Each slide could be shown for up to (1) minute to allow groups to discuss their final answer and record it on the answer sheet.

A blank student answer sheet and a complete teacher answer sheet are provided.



[Open Slideshow](#)

#### Questions for large group discussion:

1. Did you recognize any of the objects? Are some of these objects still available today?
2. How do you think each item would have made life easier?
3. What objects do you use every day?
4. Imagine an object that could be the next invention that will help us every day. What will be its use? Will it make your bed? Do your chores? Cook your breakfast?

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

1.

12.

2.

13.

3.

14.

4.

15.

5.

16.

6.

17.

7.

18.

8.

19.

9.

20.

10.

21.

11.

22.

---

**Teacher Answer Sheet:** A short description is provided for reference

1. Camera - film inside stored images but had to be developed and printed as a photograph in a lab
2. Calculator – notice that it is a Texas Instruments brand
3. Butter Presses – In the 19<sup>th</sup> century, butter was churned by hand to separate the parts of the milk, and the butter fat was poured into molds like these to harden. The scrolls are decorative.
4. Rolling Pin - used to roll out dough such as pie crust or cookies
5. Slates and old Textbooks – used in school for writing before paper and electronics
6. Battery lantern - prequel to the flashlight
7. Battery phone - prequel to walkie-talkie radios or cell phone
8. Traffic Light - early, single light version only included a red light
9. Hand Fluter 1 – Iron that was heated on the stove and used to crimp the edges of an article of clothing. What would happen to the creases after the clothing item was washed?
10. Hand Fluter 2 – different view of object 9
11. Hand Fluter Advertisement – Geneva Company advertisement shows how the fluter worked
12. Rotary Telephone – a mid-20<sup>th</sup> century telephone version, before cordless or cell phones. It sat on a table and had a stretchy cord that connected the handset to the base.
13. Red Thermos - most lunch boxes included a thermos usually to keep food warm
14. Weave N Sew card sets – A toy that was commercially produced which had cards with punched holes with a pattern to be completed by using yarn and a needle.
15. Xylophone - small toy size version of the larger instrument
16. Neiman Marcus Christmas Catalog - often called a Wish Book, the catalog featured the must have items to purchase from the store.
17. Neiman Marcus Christmas Catalog inside
18. Doll House Furniture
19. Baby Doll stroller toys
20. Light Bright Toy – tabletop light box that had a paper pattern under a grate to push colored pegs into that created a lighted picture
21. Coffee Percolator - An early electric coffee maker that is still available today.
22. Toaster – this item has changed a bit in the last 75 years.

## Activity 2

### Writing Response

1. Choose one item from the slideshow and imagine it redesigned for use in your house. Be sure to name the item, describe your changes in detail and how it would be more useful.
  
2. Choose one item from the slideshow and explain what improvement it may have made to everyday life in the 19<sup>th</sup> or early 20<sup>th</sup> century. (Example: Did people make toast before a toaster existed? How did they do it?)

## TEKS

### SOCIAL STUDIES

#### First Grade – 113.12 (c)

- (14) (A) Culture-traditions
- (15) (A,B) Science, technology and society
- (16) (A,B,C) Social Studies Skills-identify artifacts
- (18) (B) Social Studies Skills-problem solving

#### Second Grade – 113.13 (c)

- (13) (A,B) Science, technology, and society
- (15) (A,B,C,D) Social Studies Skills-identify, gather, interpret
- (16) (B) Social Studies Skills-apply vocabulary
- (17) (B) Social Studies Skills-problem solving

#### Third Grade – 113.14 (c)

- (2) (B) History-communication, recreation
- (13) (B) Science, Technology and society-computers
- (14) (B,C,F) Social Studies Skills-differentiate, interpret, develop
- (15) (D) Social Studies Skills-express ideas
- (16) (B) Social Studies Skills-problem solving

#### Fourth Grade – 113.15 (c)

- (18) (B) Scientific discoveries in Texas (TI)
- (19) (A,B) Social Studies Skills-differentiate

#### Fifth Grade – 113.16 (c)

- (25) (B,C,D) Social Studies Skills-express, create
- (26) (B) Social Studies Skills-problem solving

### ELAR

#### First Grade – 110.3 (b)

- (7) (A,B,E) Response Skills

#### Second Grade – 110.4 (b)

- (1) (A, C,D) Developing foundational Language Skills- Listen actively, share ideas, work collaboratively
- (6) (A-I) Comprehension skills
- (7) (A-F) Response Skills

#### Third Grade – 110.5 (b)

- (1) (A,B,C,D) Developing Foundational Language Skills
- (3) (A,B) Developing Foundational Language Skills
- (6) (B-H) Comprehension skills

#### Fourth Grade – 110.6 (b)

- (1) (A-D) Developing Foundational Language Skills
- (3) (A,B) Developing Foundational Language Skills
- (7) (A-F) Response skills

#### Fifth Grade – 110.7 (b)

- (1) (A,C,D) Developing Foundational Language Skills
- (3) (A,B) Developing Foundational Language Skills
- (6) (A-H) Comprehension Skills