

Topic: Victorian Toy theatre Year 6

What I should already know

- Use textile and sewing skills to make something
- Experiment with and combine materials and processes to design and make a 3D object

Key Knowledge

Puppet shows became more popular between 1700 and 1900, with shows like Punch and Judy becoming firm favourites with many adults and children.

Toy theatres were the next step from puppet shows. They were collected by adults and children during Victorian times. Any play in the West End was reproduced in miniature afterwards! Using cardboard, paper and paints they would design and build the theatre. Then they would use textiles to stitch the clothes of the characters as well as the curtains.

In the early 1800s popular and highly coloured prints of actors and actresses were sold in the print shops of London's Theatre Land. In 1811 William West began to print these characters (6-8 a sheet) onto copper plates and sell them to those that wanted to reproduce the plays to friends and family.

Pollock Toy Museum takes its name from Benjamin Pollock, the last of the Victorian Toy Theatre printers. The museum is still in Covent Garden, in London today. Nearly every kind of toy imaginable turns up here from all over the world and from all different time periods.



Vocabulary

draw	Use a pencil to produce a picture, pattern or diagram
sketch	A drawing that is done quickly, without a lot of detail
design	A detailed drawing, which a machine, theatre, object can be made from
create	Something new is made or invented
Tactile	Can be touched/felt
Visual	Things that you can see
texture	The way something feels when you touch it
tone	Lighter, darker or brighter shade of the same colour. Can also relate to the mood of the piece.
fabric	A cloth or other material produced by weaving together cotton, nylon, wool, silk or other threads
materials	The things you need for something to be made
foreground	The part or area that appears closest to you
middle ground	The part or area that is in the middle of the area or stage
background	The things in a picture or a scene that are less noticeable or important