

# Kids Korner

## Make Your Own Time Capsule

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What is time?  
It's not the clock on the wall.  
It's not something we can take a picture of or buy a bucket of.

We can describe its characteristics. Time is always moving forward. It has a past, a now, and a future.

But what is time exactly?

The World Book Encyclopedia tells us to think about time as a change from a before to a now. For example, yesterday (before), the ground was dry. Today (now), it's covered with snow. The period between the before and the now shows that time has passed. Thus, when change happens, time passes.

Some changes occur on a regular basis - the rise and setting of the sun and moon, the changing seasons, the waves breaking on the shore. Events or changes that happen at random are measured by the changes that happen on a regular basis. We know, for example, that a thunderstorm occurred three days ago because of the regular rising and setting of the sun.

By measuring time, we can see how things change. The clothing children wear today is different from what was worn 100 years ago and extremely different from what we imagine men and women wore when they first walked on earth. We learn of more recent changes through books, videos, movies, artwork, newspapers, and magazines.

One hundred years from now, people will be wondering what life was like at the turn of this millennium. More specifically, some of your family members generations from now will be wondering what your life was like at this momentous time in history. You can let future generations know by putting together a time capsule.

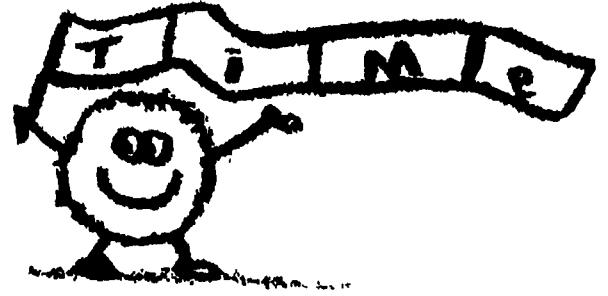
### Create Your Own Time Capsule

A time capsule helps record what life was like for a civilization during a certain time in history. Time capsules are usually large plastic containers filled with items, sealed, and then opened many years later. Time capsules were buried at the New York World's Fairs in 1939 and 1964. When the United States celebrated its 200th anniversary from 1975 to 1976, many people buried time capsules. One very large time capsule in Seward,

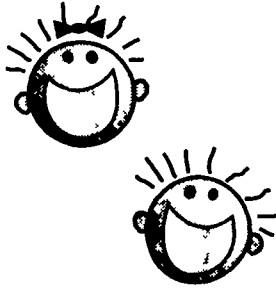
Nebraska, even holds an automobile and a motorcycle. It will be opened in 2025.

This would be a good time to put together your time capsule. You don't need to bury it. Just keep it in a safe place. Be sure to put a note inside that tells who made the time capsule and when. Be sure to date it! Here is a list of items you might want to include in your time capsule. Add your own ideas.

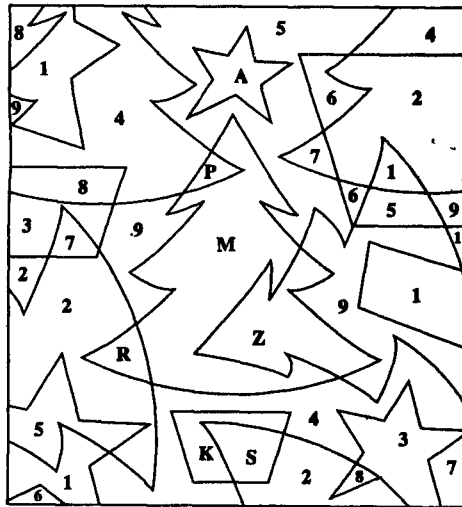
- Children's toys
- Newspapers and magazines
- Diary entries
- Photographs
- Family tree
- Written family history (Interview your parents and grandparents about what life was like during their childhood. Be sure to record their ages, the date they were born, and the time era they're talking about.)
- Coins or paper money



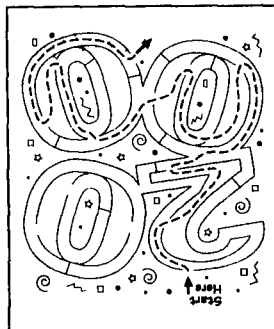
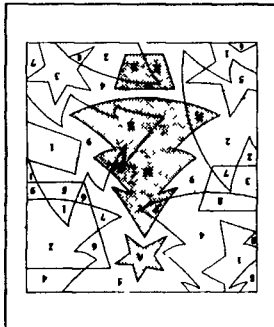
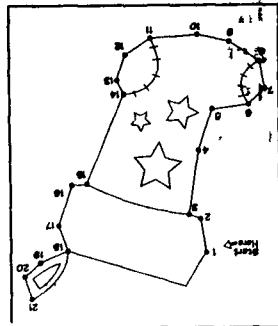
Let's look at the following time measurements.  
**day** - a length of time based on the rise and fall of the sun  
**month** - based on the change in the visible shape of the moon  
**seasons** - the cycle of four seasons (approximately 365 1/4 days)  
**week** - not based on any earthly changes; came from the Jewish custom of observing the Sabbath every seven days  
**hours, minutes, seconds** - clockmakers could show these smaller divisions of time on the face of a clock



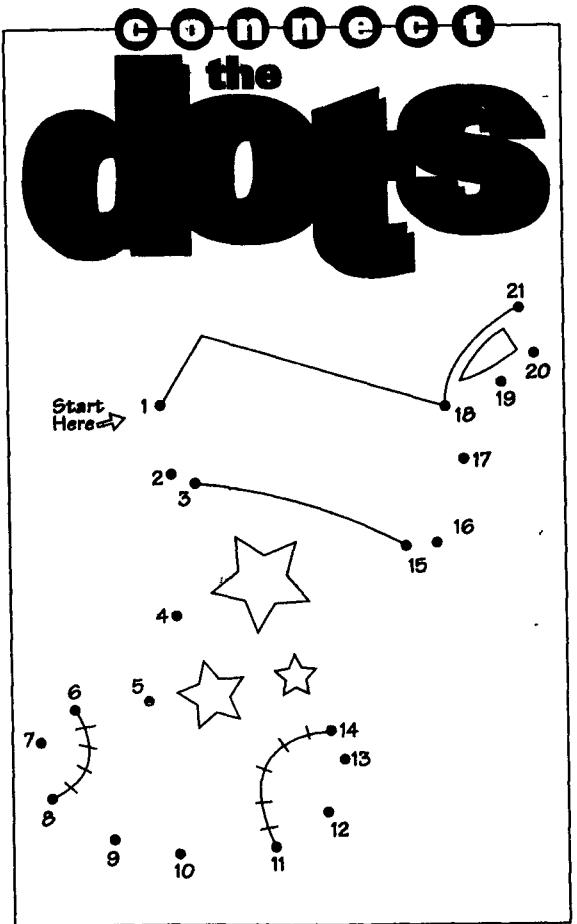
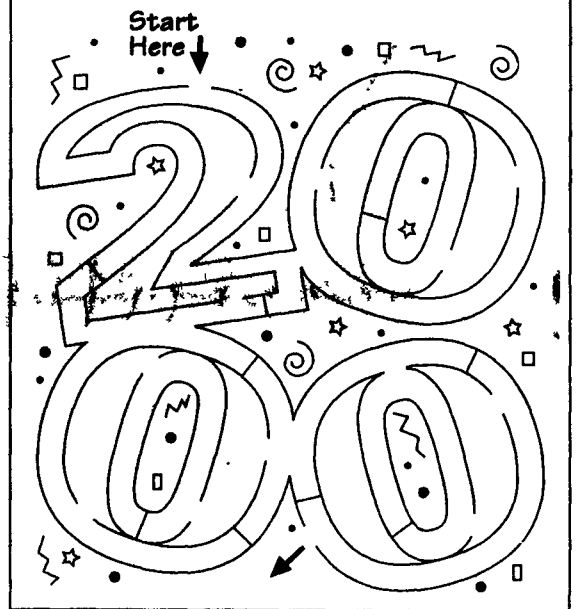
## HIDDEN PICTURE



Color in each space that contains a letter.



## MAZE



# Smart Stuff

WITH TWIG WALKINGSTICK

**Why is it important to be Y2K ready?**  
 Because hundreds of your everyday activities depend on computers

For example, you've used computers to write school papers or search for books at the library. Computers also maintain bank accounts, run VCRs, keep automated heating systems for buildings working and run ventilators for hospital patients

The Y2K problem — which is short for Year 2000 — started decades ago when computers had limited memory. Programmers saved space by shortening the year to the last two digits. So, when the calendar changes to Jan 1, 2000, the computer systems may read the date as Jan 1, 1900, instead. That would create a whole slew of problems in everything from bank accounts to electricity delivery to airport control centers.

On the bright side, people have been working overtime the past several years to prevent any Year 2000 mishaps. Several companies are taking precautions by putting extra people on duty New Year's Eve or staying closed a couple extra days after Jan 1, just to make sure any unexpected problems can be fixed right away.

For your part, be sure to have a battery-powered radio, extra blankets, several flashlights, and enough bottled water and canned goods on hand for at least three days. That's just a good practice, according to our friends at Ohio State University who specialize in safety and disaster preparedness. Most likely, you won't need the survival kit for a Y2K problem — but it sure will come in handy if you get snowed in by a big winter storm!

Scientifically yours,  
 Twig

OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY  
 COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES