

Time capsule

Name:

Date:



Time capsule - a journey into the past

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to travel back in time or what people in the future will want to know about us? With a time capsule, you can do just that!

A **time capsule** is a container in which you store objects from the present day in order to find them again in the future. This allows people many years from now to experience how we live today.

A famous example is the **Westinghouse time capsule**, which was buried for the 1939 World's Fair in New York. It contains everyday objects such as a pair of sunglasses, a toy doll and seeds to show the people of the future how we live.

The **first time capsule** was created in **1876** to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the USA. It contained books, newspapers, photos and even a telephone system!

Would you like to create a time capsule yourself? Here's how:

1. **Choose a container** that is durable and waterproof.
2. **Collect objects** that represent your life and the present day. For example, photos, letters, toys or a newspaper.
3. **Pack the items securely** so that they are not damaged.
4. **Label the time capsule** so that people know when to open it.
5. **Bury or hide the capsule** in a safe place.
6. **Make a note of the location and date** so that you or someone else can find it later.

With a time capsule, you can send a **message to the future**. It's exciting to think about what people will think about us many years from now. So why don't you give it a try and create your own time capsule?

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Put the actions in the right order.

- Label the time capsule with the intended opening date and any necessary information.
- Record the location and details about the time capsule so it can be found in the future.
- Carefully pack the chosen items into the container, ensuring they are well-protected.
- Write a note or include instructions to explain the significance of the items to future finders.
- Select items that represent your life and the present day, such as photos, letters, or newspapers.
- Decide to create a time capsule to preserve memories for the future.
- Seal the container securely to prevent moisture and air from entering.
- Bury or store the time capsule in a safe and memorable location.
- Choose a durable and waterproof container to protect the contents over time.

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Work order

Before you look at the time capsule, read the story to get an insight into the era.

My name is James, and I am 11 years old. I live in a small town in Alabama. Life here is sometimes tough. Every day, I walk to school with my sister. Our school is for Black children like us. It's not as big or fancy as the one for white kids, but our teachers care about us. After school, I help my mom with chores, and sometimes we listen to music on the radio.

People talk a lot about Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. They say he is a great man who speaks for our rights. In 1963, he gave a famous speech called "I Have a Dream" in Washington, D.C. I heard it on the radio, and it gave me hope. He dreams of a world where we are all equal. Last year, in 1964, the Civil Rights Act was passed. They say it will help end segregation.

In town, there's a new building being built. It's a community center where everyone can come together. I hope one day we can all use it, no matter our color. My dad says change is coming. He joined a march last month to support voting rights.

There are new things around us. My friend got a toy called a "Slinky." It's a metal spring that walks down the steps. We also enjoy watching "The Ed Sullivan Show" on TV. The Beatles performed on it in 1964, and everyone is talking about their music.

Life is changing, and I feel excited. If I could put things in a hidden box for the future, I would choose my favorite book, a photo of Dr. King, and today's newspaper about the Voting Rights Act signed in 1965. Maybe someone will find them and learn about our lives in this year of 1965.

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 **Choose the correct answer for each question.**

Why did James feel hopeful after hearing Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech?

- Because the speech gave him a vision of a world where everyone is equal.
- Because he learned that segregation had already ended.
- Because Dr. King promised new schools for Black children.
- Because his father met Dr. King in person.

What is the significance of the Voting Rights Act signed in 1965 for James's family?

- It allowed them to attend any school they choose.
- It abolished all racial discrimination overnight. It provided them with new job opportunities.
- It granted them the right to vote without unfair barriers.

How does the new community center being built in James's town symbolize the changes happening in society?

- It shows the community's interest in new buildings.
- It symbolizes hope for racial integration and unity.
- It is a place exclusively for Black children to play.
- It represents the ongoing segregation in his town.

Why is James's father participating in a march to support voting rights?

- He is celebrating the end of segregation. He seeks equal voting rights for African Americans.
- He is campaigning for a political office. He wants to protest against taxes.

What do the new toys and TV shows mentioned in the text indicate about the time period?

- That James's family is wealthy and can afford luxuries.
- That children's interests have shifted away from school.
- That despite societal issues, popular culture is thriving and influencing youth.
- That James is more interested in entertainment than civil rights.

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So now it's your turn! Draw everything you would like to pass on to the next generation in the time capsule below.

