

Nature and Animals in Toy History

Toy History · Answer Key · 12 Questions

1. Which famous 1902 political cartoon inspired the creation of the first teddy bear in the United States?

- A) The Donkey and the Elephant
- B) The Roosevelt Bear Hunt**
- C) The Great Polar Migration
- D) The Endangered Grizzly Act

2. The 'Slinky', invented in 1943, was inspired by the movement of which mechanical component that acts like a coiled spring found in some natural elastic structures?

- A) A ship's torsion spring**
- B) A spider's silk thread
- C) A bird's tendon
- D) A snake's vertebrae

3. What natural material was the primary stuffing for early 20th-century teddy bears before synthetic fibers became standard?

- A) Sawdust or wood wool**
- B) Crushed seashells
- C) Dried river moss
- D) Compressed animal fur

4. The iconic 'Rocking Horse' dates back to the 17th century; which real-world animal were they originally designed to emulate?

- A) A kangaroo
- B) A warhorse**
- C) A mountain goat
- D) A racing greyhound

5. LEGO's 'Duplo' line released its first animal-themed sets in the late 1970s; what was the first animal to be featured in the Duplo figure range?

- A) A giraffe
- B) A cow**
- C) A lion
- D) A rabbit

6. What type of animal served as the inspiration for the 'Tamagotchi', the digital pet that popularized virtual biological care in 1996?

A) Alien lifeform

- B) Domestic cat
- C) Chimpanzee
- D) Goldfish

7. In the 1930s, the 'Chatter Telephone' was designed to resemble a classic rotary phone, but what were the 'eyes' on the toy meant to mimic?

A) A pair of curious insects

- B) A watchful owl
- C) A human face
- D) A blinking frog

8. The 'Rubik's Snake' puzzle toy, released in 1981, allows users to twist segments into shapes resembling which real animal?

A) A long-necked swan

B) A coiled serpent

- C) A leaping dolphin
- D) A burrowing mole

9. What natural resource was traditionally used to make the base of toy spinning tops before plastic dominated the market?

A) Hardwood

- B) Soft limestone
- C) Bamboo pulp
- D) Compressed clay

10. The popular toy 'Sea-Monkeys' (*Artemia salina*) marketed since the 1960s are actually a species of what type of aquatic creature?

A) Brine shrimp

- B) Freshwater jellyfish
- C) Neon tetras
- D) Sea slugs

11. Before modern chemistry, what natural material was used to manufacture early flexible rubber balls for children?

A) Hevea brasiliensis tree sap

- B) Processed seaweed
- C) Animal bladder resin
- D) Bee's wax

12. Which prehistoric animal was the subject of the first 'Dino-Riders' toy line that emphasized interaction between human technology and extinct nature?

A) Stegosaurus

B) Tyrannosaurus Rex

C) Triceratops

D) Velociraptor