Knowledge Organiser - Life in the 1950s/1960s

Timeline of key events:

- **1955** Disneyland opens
- **1957** Elvis Presley - First Number 1 in the UK
- **1958** NASA founded
- **1960** Lego comes to Britain
- **1961** First man in space
- **1962** The Beatles - First Single in the UK
- **1963** First episode of Carry On
- **1969** First man on the moon

Key questions for discussion:

- What were toys like in the 1950s and 1960s?
- What was school like in the 1950s and 1960s?
- What clothes did people wear in the 1950s and 1960s?
- What food was popular in the 1950s and 1960s?
- What types of holidays did people have in the 1950s and 1960s?
- What playground games did children play in the 1950s and 1960s?

Key inventions in the 1950s:

- 1952: The first jet aeroplane to carry passengers, called Comet, began to run a regular passenger service.
- 1953: Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II
- 1954: All rationing comes to an end
- 1959: Britain's first motorway, the M1, between Birmingham and London, opened.

Key Facts in the 1960s:

- 1961: First man in space
- 1962: The first computer video game, Spacewar, is invented.
- 1966: England won the football World cup
- 1969: First humans to walk on the Moon - Apollo 11.
### Inventions of popular toys in the 1960s:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Invention</th>
<th>Inventor</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1950</td>
<td>Credit card</td>
<td>Frank X McNamara</td>
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<tr>
<td>1951</td>
<td>Super glue</td>
<td>Francis W. Davis.</td>
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<td>1951</td>
<td>Power steering</td>
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<td>1951</td>
<td>Videotape recorder (VTR).</td>
<td>Charles Ginsburg</td>
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<td>1953</td>
<td>Black box - flight recorder.</td>
<td>David Warren</td>
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<td>1954</td>
<td>The first nonstick pan produced</td>
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<tr>
<td>1955</td>
<td>Lego</td>
<td>Gottfried Kirk Christiansen</td>
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<td>1956</td>
<td>Velcro</td>
<td>George de Mestral</td>
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<tr>
<td>1956</td>
<td>Hovercraft</td>
<td>Christopher Cockerell</td>
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<tr>
<td>1958</td>
<td>Videotape</td>
<td>A.M Poniatoff</td>
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<td>1959</td>
<td>Barbie Doll</td>
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Inventions of popular toys in the 1960s:

- School uniform

**Toys**

- 1960 **Etch-a-sketch**
- 1961 **Skalextric**
- 1962 **Mousetrap**
- 1963 **Sindy**
- 1964 **Mr Potato Head**
- 1965 **Spirograph**
- 1966 **Action Man**
- 1967 **KerPlunk**
- 1968 **Batman utility belt** and the Spacehopper