PRE-VISIT ACTIVITY – Once Upon a Playtime

Everyone likes toys and playing games, especially over doing chores or being bored with nothing to do. Think about, when children played together in historical times, what was different, and what was just like today?

1. Look at the list below and:
   a. **Circle** the activities children did long ago;
   b. **Put a star** next to the ones that are/were played outside;
   c. **And, X-out** the games that were not possible to play long ago.

   Hide and seek  Hoop and stick races  Checkers and chess
   Riding bicycles  Crossword puzzles  Coloring books
   Catching a ball  Pokémon cards  Marbles
   Video games  Climbing a tree  Watching TV
   Reading books  Barbie dolls  Jump rope

2. Name five games that are played with a ball?
   1. ________________________________
   2. ________________________________
   3. ________________________________
   4. ________________________________
   5. ________________________________

3. Did you have a favorite toy when you were little? What about now?

   **LITTLE:** ________________________________  **TODAY:** ________________________________

4. Children long ago didn’t have fancy toys or sports equipment when they played. They used their imaginations to make simple games entertaining or invent new ones. **Can you invent a game using a rope, a blanket, a bucket and some small stones?** Use the back of this paper to explain your game using words or drawings.