

# Finding out about Childhood in the 1950's

Here are the questions you suggested you could ask a grandparent, great aunt or uncle or older friend:

1. Where did you go to school? (Country? City ? Village?)
2. How old were you when you began and how old when you left??
3. What sort of schools did you go to? At what age did you change schools?
4. How many pupils were in the class / in the school?
5. Was it a mixed school with boys and girls? Were there any children there who'd come from a different country?
6. How did you get to school and how long did it take?
7. How long was the school day? (Began at? Ended at?)
8. Did you like school?  
If yes - why and what?  
If no - why and what?
9. How did the teachers treat you?
10. Was there corporal punishment (being hit by a teacher!)?
11. What were children's punished for doing?
12. Did you wear a uniform? What was it like?
13. If not, what did you wear?
14. Sports clothes?
15. What subjects did you study? Did you do sport or gymnastics
16. How long was the day?
17. Did you have breaktimes? Where did you go and what did you do?
18. What toys did you have (home? School?)
19. Did you go on school trips?
20. What did you like to do outside school?

How to organise your interview.....

1. Decide how you are going to record the interview:
  - a) Write down what your interviewee says
  - b) Use a webcam to make a video. This is great because even if your relative is in a different country, they could email you the video or you could record them using Skype.
  - c) Ask your interviewee if they would like to come into school to talk to the class.
2. Decide how you are going to conduct the interview:
  - a) You might show your interviewee the questions first, and let them just talk about what they remember.
  - b) You might choose the questions you want to ask, and then record the answers.
  - c) Your interviewee may prefer just to talk about a photo of themselves at school and then you could write down what was said and display this with the photo.