

Magic Time Travel

With 6-9 year-olds



Look how beautiful I am with curls in my hair.

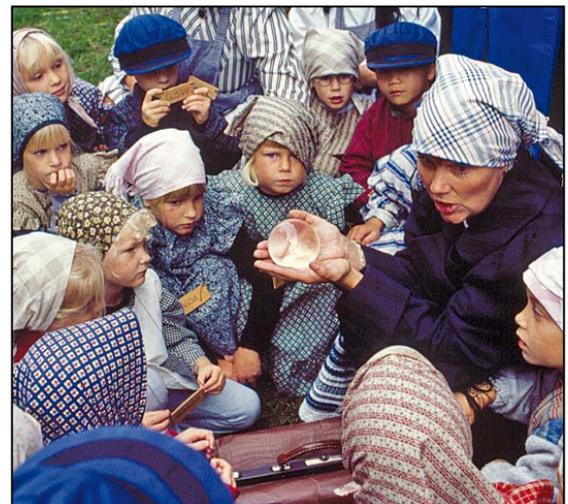
We asked a few six yearolds - How do you think we lived a hundred years ago?

“There were wars, people lived in stone houses, they searched for food, they wore furs, they ate raw meat, there were dinosaurs, everything was old and brown.”

The aim of the time travel is to help children understand what it was like to live a hundred years ago. It is important to know ones roots in order to understand the future and to find ones identity.

The Magic Crysta Ball

By the means of a magic crystal ball and a rhyme the children travel back 100 years to the time when their great grandmother was a child.



Dare you go back 100 years in time with me?
Anna-Helena asks the children.



Is this west right for you?

In a suitable turn of the century setting close to the school the children may meet different persons who have lived and worked there. They find a magic chest filled with period clothes which they put on at once. All the children receive new names from the turn of the century and then the historical drama may begin.

Perhaps they meet Hilda, the farmer's wife. She has been ill for quite some time and needs help with many things, for example, chopping pork, ironing, washing, mangling etc.



Now it is spring and it is time to do the spring washing. Siri and Berta helps to wash the sheets that she will mangle afterwards.

The father of the house needs some help with various chores like sawing firewood, mending rakes, polishing harnesses etc. Sometimes there is time left for Oskar to whittle a bark boat.



Arvid and Anders think that it is fun to help when they scrub the potatoes for dinner.

Another day Lina, the maid, needs to help with churning the butter. It takes about an hour before the butter is ready.



The day is always finished with a meal together. Here in the sunshine pork, potatoes and lingonberry cream are served. Everyone has a good appetite after a long working day.

Sometimes somebody pays a visit. Today the clergyman drops by. Maybe he hopes to determine a day for a parish catechism meeting. Another day it is poor Sara who is looking for a days work.





There is time for thoughts for Ebba and Lisa while they are helping mother to mend socks and strips of rags.

The time travels are a part of a project that the school and the museum develop together. A “tailor-made” course, focusing on local history, is recommended to the teachers concerned. Based on the children’s questions we plan the contents and the activities of the time travel. “All-Time History” at Kalmar County Museum happily travels to other periods of history. Maybe the children prefer to travel to the Middle Ages or the Stone Age instead. Anything is possible when you have a magic crystal ball, a magic door or a time-rope with enchanted beads on it!

The historical-educational workshop, “All-Time History” at Kalmar County Museum has received funds from the foundation, The Future’s Culture (Framtidens kultur), in order to carry out trials with six to nine year-olds for two years, 1999-2000 in Kalmar County. The aim is to find methods to how we can best work with young children and history. These methods can then be spread to other parts of the country by the way of seminars and courses.

*Photo: Pierre Rosberg
Kalmar County Museum*

Would You like som
more information about
"Magic Time Travel" ?

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