TECHNOLOGY

THEN AND NOW

Charles Hope

LOUIE & TED *an imprint of* **Wild Dog Books**

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Synopsis

Throughout history, technology has been used to make people's lives better, easier and more enjoyable. It is amazing how significantly technology can change our lives. Our ancestors could not have imagined the technologies we take for granted today and how much they have impacted our lives. Technology continues to shape and influence our lives, both today and into the future.

Welcome to the fascinating world of *Technology: Then and Now*.

Specifications	
Author	Charles Hope
ISBN	9781742034911
Format	210mm x 297mm
Extent	24pp + cover
Binding	Paperback
Reading level	6+
Interest level	6+
Category	Junior Non-Fiction

Writing style

Technology: Then & Now has been designed with the needs of early readers and reluctant readers in mind. Running along the top of each page is a simple, succinct idea, which is then supported by more detailed text underneath. The information conveyed by the text has a natural and understandable flow, and the large format images relate directly to the text, so young readers have multiple entry points to engaging with the information.

Photographic style

The *Then & Now* series uses an artful layout that compares the past with the present in a way that children will readily understand. On the left-hand-side are historical images that, along with illustrating the concepts of the past, beautifully illuminate what life was like for our ancestors, while on the right-hand-side are modern examples of those same concepts. These photographs also have the advantage that the image is static, giving the reader the opportunity to explore the image and look at the subject matter and its features in detail. The photographs are also strongly composed and clearly printed with bright strong colours to increase the appeal to visual readers. Readers can explore how photographs are used to convey messages.

Example spreads taken from the book

TECHNOLOGY

Study notes: Themes

- Descriptive words
- Technology throughout history
- Public and personal transport
- Seeing the self
- Music, games and entertainment
- Healthcare
- Food, diet and cooking
- Communication
- Freight transport
- Technology making life easier
- Digital technology and data storage
- Past versus present

Curriculum link: Literacy

Before reading:

- Brainstorm what students know about technology.
- What is their first response when they look at the cover of the book?
- What are some examples of technology people use today?
- Did these technologies exist in the past? Would they have been different or the same?
- Have these technologies always existed?

While reading:

- Ask the students to take turns reading a paragraph aloud to the rest of the class. Where appropriate, ask the students what they think certain words may mean.
- Ask the students to keep a table list of the concepts and features that are important to technology. In one column list the concept as it was in the past, and in the second column put the concept as it is in the present. In the third column, write how and why these concepts have changed over time.

After reading:

- Ask the students to reflect on the words they would use to describe technology and the words that were used in the book. Ask them to draw up a list of words that can be used to describe technology.

Curriculum Theme: Critical and Creative Thinking

After reading Technology: Then & Now ask the students the following questions:

- What is technology, and why is it important?
- What are some examples of technology we use today?
- How have these technologies changed over time, and why?
- How might these technologies change in the future?
- How does technology impact our lives?
- Does all technology have a positive impact, or can it be negative?
- What are some examples of technology that have been around for a long time?
- What are some examples of technology that have recently been created?

ACTIVITY:

- Ask the students to go through the book and make a list of the technologies they think no longer exist/are in use. Discuss their findings as a group.

Curriculum link: ICT Capability

After reading Technology: Then & Now:

ACTIVITY:

• Organise the class into small groups. Assign each group a technology they use in their daily life (can include examples from the book, or others workshopped by the class). Ask the groups to research online and answer the following questions: What is their technology? What is its purpose? How does it make our lives better? Is it used all around the world or is it more popular in certain countries? Is it widely used by all types of people? Do you need special equipment or materials to use it? How long has it existed? Was it used by your grandparents? How has it changed over time?

• Ask the children to look for and print images relating to their technology. Specifically, look for examples of how it existed in the past and how it was used, then compare these with how it is used today. Also, look for pictures of people who were instrumental in their technology being discovered/ improved upon.

• Ask each group to create a poster collage. Ask them to attach the images they found and to write a short sentence detailing what their technology is and how it has changed over time. All members of the group then take turns presenting their findings to the rest of the class.

ACTIVITY:

• Ask the students to examine the cover, with emphasis on how the upper image shows a technology as it appeared in the past and the lower image shows how the corresponding technology appears in the present. Students should then research online and find images so that they can create their own cover, based on a type of technology not covered in the book.

Curriculum Theme: Personal and Social Capability

After reading Technology: Then & Now:

ACTIVITY:

• Organise the class into two groups. In one group, ask the students to work as a team to construct a word finder puzzle. Ask each student to suggest an appropriate word about technology using words they have learned from the book (e.g. digital, portable, online etc.). Once completed, print copies for the other group to complete.

ACTIVITY:

• In the second group, students should work as a team to create a trivia bingo game. Ask each student to suggest a fact they found surprising or interesting. Combine these facts into a game for the whole class.

ACTIVITY:

• Ask the students to show the technologies highlighted in the book to older members of their family. Did these technologies exist when their ancestors were their age? Was a big deal for their ancestors when they first experienced these technologies?

Find out more

- http://www.nma.gov.au/
- http://www.nma.gov.au/explore/collection/collection/science-and-technology
- https://www.britannica.com/technology/history-of-technology
- http://www.aushistorytimeline.com/
- https://museumsvictoria.com.au/scienceworks/
- https://maas.museum/powerhouse-museum/
- https://www.questacon.edu.au/

Marketing and promotion

Technology: Then & Now is the latest in a fascinating series looking at everyday topics, objects and places, and examining how they have changed over time. Past titles include *Transport*, *Toys and Games*, *Schools*, *Home*, *Work* and *Sports*, while future titles are planned.

Other titles in the Then and Now *series*

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