

Daniel Tajés  
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Woodbridge Middle School

100%  
Nice!  
Job!

### Childhood Now and Then

What could children possibly do for entertainment in a world where the light bulb was invented about 45 years ago, televisions with moving images weren't out to the public, having a car wasn't the norm, telephones didn't exist, and computers weren't even a thought? Kids would actually go outside and talk to each other. It's very surprising, isn't it? Honestly, I like the advanced technology we have now, but I wouldn't mind growing up back in 1925. I would prefer to live my life as I have, but it would be no problem in my opinion to live back then. They used to do many things like us such as play sports, have essay contests, and have pretty much boy and girl scouts. On the other hand, they faced many hardships as well such as a major breakout of the disease Trachoma and not having milk to feed newborn babies.

Not everything in 1925 was fun and games for children. Starting in Port Reading school, an illness called Trachoma started spreading. You may be thinking, what does Trachoma mean? Well, Trachoma is a sickness similar to the modern day Pink Eye or Conjunctivitis. In the March 20th issue of Woodbridge Independent, the author stated how fear of the malaty was rising. Also, there was a drive organized to collect milk for babies in needy families. This fact makes me forlorn, just knowing that families needed milk that they didn't have to sustain their children. These events are not still happening today in this area to this extent, but around the world, people are still struggling to get enough food to survive.

One major similarity between 1925 and now is sports. Schools had teams and rivals in everything from baseball to basketball to soccer. We still have activities well alive in schools extremely similar to these. In addition, we have leagues separate from school for leisure. These sports helped and continue to help kids stay in shape and exercise. There are rivalries between schools as well as before, and I believe there still will be for as long as school held sports exist. Sports haven't changed since 90 years ago and I don't think that they will change in another 90 years.

Not many things have changed since 1925 but technology. Back then, there were two youth organizations called Boy Scouts and Camp Fire Girls. Boy Scouts still exist, and the equivalent of the other group must be Girl Scouts. These groups pretty much both still exist and are helping children socialize and learn valuable skills in the meantime. An article that really stood out to me was one in the April 10th 1925 edition of the Woodbridge Independent. It stated that an essay contest was going to be held in Avenel for the 6th and 7th graders on the topic of the progress of Avenel over the past ten years (1915-1925). This reminded me so much of this contest that my peers and I are being a part of. We are comparing the past to the present just as they did. That article sent me a message, some things just never change.

1925 and now are extremely similar regarding children's activities and pastimes. The only major difference between the two is technology. Technology is draining away from what kids used to do, talk to each other and play. Now, children rely more on technology than ever and play using a controller, a headset, and a screen. Though I am sadly in the group of youth that partake in electronics more than should be normal, I do

not find it a bad idea to cut down on screens. Ultimately, children's behavior and activities haven't changed since 1925.

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