

# PLAYTIME WITH FHN

Growing up is something everyone has in common; look around to learn more about FHN's most popular childhood toys and play items (Content by Brianna Taliaferro)



**It's March 9, 1959.** Stepping out with her plastic high heels and sleek synthetic hair, Barbie makes her first appearance and steps into many kids' toy bins.

Move forward to the 2000s and it's hard for this doll not to come to mind when noting iconic toys.

From being an inspirational icon to a great fashion model for young kids to work their magic, there is no wonder why this doll was and still is important to many childhoods.

"I used to really love her dreamhouse and her cars in the show. When I first played with it [I was] definitely 7 or 8. My first doll was a black Barbie doll so I guess I just kind of related to it."

**Zanyiah Howard, 10**

"I was definitely a Barbie girl. Me and my sister, we used to climb trees with our barbies and play in the trees... It's just fun, you can dress them up however you want- it's basically choose your own adventure."

**Lenny Lee, 10**

## NINTENDO DS



In the 2000s there was a high chance of finding young siblings in their home tapping the back of a handheld console looking device together. For 2000s kids, this was what connecting to multiplayer DS games for a day of fun looked like. Whether solo or multiplayer, playing games on the Wii and DS such as "Mario Kart", "Pokémon", and "Just Dance" paved the way for nostalgic 2000s memories.



**Wii**

"We had a Goosebumps game, and I really loved that game. This character is in a theme park and you gotta beat games."

**Aiden Reilly, 9**

**DS**

"My new 3DS XLI played a whole bunch on it, mostly Pokémon games... I really liked the uniqueness of its hardware; the dual screen."

**Scar Mulka, 10**



**Play-Doh is the squishy, doughy colorful fun** that once started as a cleaning product in the 1930s.

The product was released to the public in 1955 as a toy that kids could use to build anything they had the imagination for. Appearing in classrooms, daycares, at the kitchen table -and sometimes on the walls-, Play-Doh squeezed its way into being a core 2000s toy.

"[Play-Doh] got me into sculpting and stuff, and I do it now but with actual stuff instead of just Play-Doh. Christmas... all I asked for was Play-Doh but I asked all my different family members so all I got was Play-Doh and I got a lot of it."

**Tatem Chrisner, 11**



**A childhood with an Xbox**

often meant a few things: splitting the TV screen to play Minecraft with siblings and friends, storing a ton of Disney Infinity console characters, and creating memories that started with calling dibs on player one. Born by Microsoft in 2001, this console remains a popular choice for a dose of high-quality fun.



"The Xbox 360 is what introduced me to Master Chief. I've never played a game [Halo Reach] with a more beautiful story... It's one of those thoughts I think about that makes me sad to die because I never want to leave the memories behind that I had playing Halo Reach with my brother, y'know?"

**Issac Lopez, 11**



## PERSONAL TOYS

Check out toys special to FHN because of their personal significance and value.

### DIRT BIKE

"I had a mini electric dirt bike [when I was] around four or five... As long as it's charged you get to use it whenever and play to get to ride it around."

**Rahul Senthil, 10**

### LOL SURPRISE DOLLS

"...We spent thousands of dollars...because they were most notable. [My favorite was] the suspense of not knowing what's inside of them because they're surprise dolls."

**Avee Volk, 9**

### BUZZ LIGHTYEAR

"[I loved] playing with him whenever we were moving, I was always allowed to have one toy unpacked at all times and I always just picked that one."

**Eric Kramer, 12**

### HATCHIMALS

"... It was like 2017. Sometimes I would pretend I was a vet or a daycare for pets and I'd take my sister's and my cousin's [Hatchimals] and be like, 'Okay time for bed!'"

**Ashlyn Reid, 9**

### TOY CAR

"It could go from any terrain and it could also convert into a water boat...it gave me great memories, it let me go outside."

**Trent Thayer, 12**

### SPIROGRAPH

"This allowed me to be creative without any talent. I used to draw figures and pictures with my friends and then I would give them to them."

**Debb McDonald, FHN Media Specialist**



Senior Mallory Barker shops for a St. Patrick's Day outfit at Plato's Closet on Mid Rivers Center. (Photo by Faith Smith)

## STUDENT EXPRESSION IN SECONDHAND

by Noah Tucker

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Clothing and fashion have undoubtedly been a pillar of culture in nearly every community, and that is especially true for high school students. It's one of the strongest ways for students to express themselves in a time where that can be difficult for many. Within that pillar of culture, buying used clothing or thrifting has always been a prominent part.

Some stores, such as Plato's Closet, operate on a resale business model, in which people can sell their used clothing for some pocket money. The store sorts through the clothes that are bought and donated and determines which items are most likely to be sold. Those clothes are then put up on the shelves at a substantially lower price than the market value. This allows people to buy clothing at a cheaper price while also allowing the store to make a profit.

"I love the culture of the store," Emily Moore, part-owner of Plato's Closet said. "It's sustainable, too. The entire business model is fantastic and people love it."

The biggest advantage buying used has over buying new is the price and the variety of items that can be found as opposed to what is currently on the shelves. While some stores follow a resale business model, more typical stores such as Goodwill and Salvation Army operate on a purely donation-to-floor business model. That allows those thrift stores to sell goods at a low price that is particularly accessible to high school students looking to change up their wardrobe in any way.

"I would say thrifting culture is mostly really chill but there's some people who will thrift items that are really nice and then resell them online for way more expensive, and that's not cool," senior Shaylin Jones said. "I think it's really annoying, and they just want to make a profit."

The culture around thrifting is nothing new, especially to those in spaces where fashion does not line up with what is currently trending on the mainstream, or to those who grew up during times of financial hardship. However, like any other culture, it has changed significantly with the times and continues to evolve as it gains more popularity.

"Thrifting culture has been around for a long time, just look at how many different stores that continue to pop up," fashion teacher Marissa Heyer said. "A great deal of people feel rewarded to donate and they're doing better for the environment when they purchase something secondhand."