



THE SIXTH FLOOR MUSEUM
AT DEALEY PLAZA

Time Capsules

Capture a part of your life and tell your story for the future

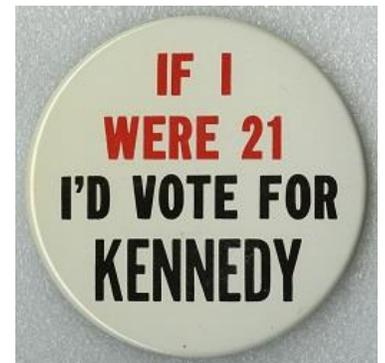
What is a time capsule?

What do you think of when you hear the phrase “time capsule”? A capsule is a small container so a time capsule would be a container that holds time. But how do you hold time? There are many ways to capture time, if just for a moment. You can capture time in memories, photographs, items you keep to remember something important, and writing things down. A time capsule is a container or box that holds items such as these. When people create time capsules, they want to make sure a certain period in time, people, event, or location is remembered in the future.



Everyday Time Capsules

Did you know you build time capsules all the time? Think about the bag you take to school, your bedroom, living space, and classroom. Those are all examples of everyday time capsules. Imagine an archaeologist or a historian were to look into what you have in any of those spaces. What can they learn about you? What do the things they contain say about who you are and what is important to you? If you had to tell a story using the items in your school bag or your bedroom, what items would you include? Have your friends and family choose three items from your living space they think best represent you and have them explain their choices.



Mystery Time Capsule Game

Gather a group of your friends and family and give them each a box or bag you cannot see through. Have them put items in their box that are important to them. Put all the bags and boxes in one area and have each member of the group select one that is not theirs. Everyone will then open their box and try to guess which box belongs to which person.



Build a Time Capsule

Time capsules are often used to capture a moment in time. What is going on in your life right now? How would you want to represent that in a time capsule? What objects, photographs, and documents do you have to include in your time capsule. Create a time capsule about who you are right now and set a date to open it. Will that be in a month? 6 months? A year? Longer? Put your time capsule in a safe place and set a reminder for when to open it. Be sure to include a letter for yourself to read when the time capsule is opened.

Look at the images on this page and come up with three pieces of information you can learn about the person who owned them.

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