

First Nations Moving Toys



Investigate how traditional toys move with a push or a pull



SPINNING TOP
Spin · flick it to spin



WEET WEET
Push · throw it to hop



TOY CANOE
Push & pull · paddle it



STRING FIGURE
Pull · pull the loops

INVESTIGATE IT YOURSELF

Investigate how these traditional toys move with a push or a pull. Try each one and watch how a strong or gentle force changes how far and which way it goes. You can push it, spin it, or pull it.



TEACHER GUIDE **Big idea:** For thousands of years, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have made instructive toys that teach skills through play. Many move with a push or a pull — a spinning top, a weet weet throwing stick, a toy canoe, or a string figure. The strength and direction of the force changes how each one moves.

Ask: What push or pull makes each toy move? Is the force strong or gentle, and which way does the toy go? What skill might the toy help a child learn?