

词汇: toys and childhood 玩具与童年

One thing we always remember from our **childhood** is our favourite **teddy bear**. This soft, **ragged** toy was our **comfort** and **companion**. As we grow up, we normally give up our **childish** ways, and our **furry** friend often ends up in storage or at a jumble sale. But that's not the case for everyone.

It seems that some **grown-ups** continue to need their **cuddly toy** by their sides. One sleep survey suggested a tenth of people in the UK need a teddy bear in bed. And for some adults, soft toys remain an essential presence – they take them wherever they go.

A cuddly toy can come in many forms – animals, strange shapes or just a piece of **stuffed** material. But it's the teddy bear in particular that seems to have an **enduring appeal** – it gives us a **nostalgic** feeling and a reminder of our younger days. Writing for the BBC, historian David Cannadine says, "Perhaps it's that bears represent the happy **security** of a childhood friend who never changes or lets you down." For whatever reason, teddies appeal to both children and adults of all ages.

The teddy bear is much **celebrated** these days, and they've become something that we don't just grow up with – people buy them as adults too. There are shops which sell only teddy bears, there are teddy bear museums in many countries, and teddy bear festivals regularly take place around the world.

While our **soft toys** offer us a kind of **comfort blanket**, some experts say it's nothing to be ashamed of. It's sometimes good to let go of the constraints of adult life and be a **big kid** again. And research commissioned by Barclaycard in the UK found 44% of adults have purchased **playthings** they enjoyed as children because they bring back happy memories. **Colouring books**, cuddly toys and **board games** were top of the list. So, if you're still keeping your teddy a secret, don't worry – you're not alone!

词汇表

childhood	童年
teddy bear	泰迪熊
ragged	用旧、磨损的，破烂的
comfort	宽慰，慰藉
companion	伙伴，同伴
childish	孩子般的，幼稚的
furry	毛茸茸的
grown-up	大人
cuddly toy	毛绒玩具
stuffed	填满的，有填充物的
enduring appeal	经久不衰的吸引力
nostalgic	怀旧的
security	安全保障
celebrated	有名的，闻名的
soft toy	毛绒玩具
comfort blanket	（给婴儿、孩子用的）安心毯，这里比喻精神安慰
big kid	大小孩，大孩子
plaything	玩具，玩物
colouring book	填色书
board game	（尤指棋盘类）桌上游戏

测验与练习

1. 阅读课文并回答问题。

1. Where might your teddy bear end up once you have grown out of it?
2. In one study, how many people in the UK said they needed a teddy bear in bed?
3. Where do teddy bear festivals often take place?
4. True or false? *Experts say we shouldn't be ashamed of our comfort blankets.*
5. What does buying toys like a teddy bear allow you to be again?

2. 选择意思恰当的单词或词组来完成下列句子。

1. Having my brother at the funeral was a _____.

security	comfort	big kid	companion
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2. She's being very _____ by not talking to you!

nostalgic	childhood	childish	big kid
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3. My daughter needs her _____ to help her get to sleep at night.

comfort blanket	comforting blanket
comforted blanket	comforts blanket

4. I'm travelling with my _____ on a road trip to Paris.

childhood	grown-up	comfort	companion
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5. Red buses have an _____ to visitors and residents of London alike.

endured appeal	enduring appealing
enduring appealed	enduring appeal

答案

1. 阅读课文并回答问题。

1. Where might your teddy bear end up once you have grown out of it?

They sometimes are put into storage or sold in a jumble sale.

2. In one study, how many people in the UK said they needed a teddy bear in bed?

One sleep survey suggested a tenth of people in the UK need a teddy bear in bed.

3. Where do teddy bear festivals often take place?

Teddy bear festivals regularly take place around the world.

4. True or false? *Experts say we shouldn't be ashamed of our comfort blankets.*

True. A teddy bear can act as a comfort blanket and experts say we shouldn't be ashamed of this.

5. What does buying toys like a teddy bear allow you to be again?

It allows you to be a big kid again.

2. 选择意思恰当的单词或词组来完成下列句子。

1. Having my brother at the funeral was a **comfort**.

2. She's being very **childish** by not talking to you!

3. My daughter needs her **comfort blanket** to help her get to sleep at night.

4. I'm travelling with my **companion** on a road trip to Paris.

5. Red buses have an **enduring appeal** to visitors and residents of London alike.