CENTURY OF THE CHILD
Growing by Design 1900–2000

This exhibition explores toys, games, playgrounds, buildings, and more—all made for kids.

FIND “Maxi” set, including Tripp Trapp chair, by Peter Opsvik.

Opsvik created this oversized furniture so adults can feel what it’s like to sit in a chair that is too big. He designed the original Z-shaped Tripp Trapp chair for his son; it can be adjusted as a child grows bigger.

TRY IT OUT

Sit down across from the grown-up you came with. Now switch seats. How is the Tripp Trapp chair different from the regular chair?

Are there other objects you would like to make bigger, so adults could experience what it’s like to be a kid? What objects would you choose?

LIST THEM HERE:

1. 

2. 

3. 

Need a pencil? Ask at an information desk.
6TH FLOOR

Use this map to locate the works featured in this activity guide.

FIND *We Want Peace.*
*Register, Vote*, by Ben Shahn.

Shahn drew this poster from the point of view of an adult who is listening to a boy’s pleas for peace. The artist wanted to remind adults that peace is good for children and that it can be achieved, in part, through voting.

YOUR TURN

Think about a problem for children today. How would you design a poster to call attention to the problem? Draw your poster above.
3 FIND Omnibot 2000, remote-controlled robot.

This remote-controlled robot was designed as a toy for children—but adults played with it too! It can record voices, pick up objects, and hold a tray to transport food and drinks.

TURN & TALK
If you could design a robot, what would it be able to do? What would your grown-up want it to do?

YOUR TURN
Draw a robot that you and your grown-up would like to share.
FIND Geopark, Stavanger, Norway, by Helen + Hard AS.

This playground in Norway is made up of materials once used in the city’s oil industry. Kids participated in the design process; they helped to transform orange buoys, salvaged pipelines, and recycled drilling platforms into bike ramps and spaces for running, climbing, and jumping.

THINK ABOUT your favorite playground. What do you do there?

YOUR TURN

Design a playground for your neighborhood out of recycled objects. What materials would you use? Why? Draw your design below.

+ KEEP EXPLORING

For related programs and workshops, visit MoMA Studio: Common Senses (noon to 4 p.m., September 24 to November 19; closed Tuesdays), located across The Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Sculpture Garden on the mezzanine level of The Lewis B. and Dorothy Cullman Education and Research Building. For more information, please visit MoMA.org/momastudio.