NB Unless otherwise stated, the exhibits are from the John Johnson Collection of Printed Ephemera, which is abbreviated in the following list to JJ.

Comic metamorphoses

3. The Mummies; or, Comic Transpositions. [30 pieces on card, incomplete.] London: E. Wallis, [1840s?]. JJ Games 8(1)
4. Lecture on heads, a chimney ornament, for the amusement of all ages. (London): S. & J. Fuller, [c.1810]. Opie E 62
5. [Untitled cards: comic transpositions. 43 strips on card., c.1830.] JJ Games 8(6)
6. Taffetas d’Angleterre et quatre costumes. (Manuscript. c.1830s.) JJ Games 4(18)
7. [Bust of young lady with eight costumes, manuscript. c.1820.] JJ Games 4(3)

Paper dolls and Protean figures

8. Reiterlust. Plaisir de cavalier. The pleasure (sic) of riding. [2 horses and 10 men, c.1860s.] JJ Games 1(2)
9. The Protean figure and Metamorphic costumes. [1 figure and 12 costumes in a portfolio in a slip-case.] (London:) S. & J. Fuller, 1811. JJ Games 4(17)
16. Lucile Grahn. Erste Tänzerin von London. First dancer of London. [Figure, stand, six dresses and two hats. 1840s.] JJ Games 4(4)

Scientific pursuits and mathematical puzzles

19. The portable eidouranion; or, Juvenile transparent solar system. [A transparency.] London: John Offor, [1824]. JJ Games 21(1)
20. Urania’s mirror, or, A view of the heavens. [Box with 33 cards, 15 coloured (numbered) and 18 black and white, although full set announced as having 32 cards.] London: Samuel Leigh, [1825]. JJ Games 9(1)
21. Just published... Urania’s mirror; or, A view of the heavens. [Announcement.] London: Samuel Leigh, [1825]. JJ Indoor Games 5
22. The theory of the seasons and signs of the zodiac. London: J. Reynolds, [c.1840]. JJ Games 27(1)
23. Mechanical addition. [1880s?] JJ Games 16(2)
24. [Chinese puzzle. Marquetry box with 6 (of 7) pieces. 19th century.] JJ Games 16(6)
25. Chinese puzzle. [Box with 7 wooden pieces. Tangram. c.1840–1860.] JJ Games 16(5)

Elegant and instructive games

27. Wallis’s elegant and instructive game exhibiting the wonders of nature, in each quarter of the world. London: E. Wallis, 1818. JJ Games folder (22)
28. Explanation to Wallis’s elegant and instructive game, exhibiting the Wonders of nature, in each quarter of the world. (Directions and Explanation.) London: Edward Wallis, [1830s?]. JJ Indoor Games 9

30. The travellers of Europe; with improvements and additions. London: William Spooner, 1852. JJ Games folder (26)

31. Siege of Sebastopol, a new and amusing game. [London:] Dean & Son, [after 1855]. JJ Games folder (39)

32. Beside the broad ocean. Game. [c.1860s.] JJ Games 25(8)


36. Jumbo. The children's friend. [Title on board: Jumbo walking in the zoo.] W.J. Barfoot, [after 1865.] JJ Games 25(1)

37. [Untitled children's goose game. Board. Germany?, c.1900.] JJ Games 25(6)

38. The new game of the Siege of Paris. [Wooden box with board and 12 ordinary men white, 12 ordinary men blue, 6 ordinary men red, 6 special white (captains, lieutenants, general, colonel), 6 special blue (4 different types), 2 special red. 1871–1875.] JJ Games 26(3)


40. Belagerungs-Spiel. Le jeu de siége. The play of siege. [Brown box with 10 white counters, 12 purple counters, 24 orange soldiers, 2 black soldiers and rules; reverse of lid is a board for Nine men's morris; base of box is a draughts board. Germany, c.1850.] JJ Games 28(1)

41. Belagerungs-Spiel. Le jeu de siége. The play of siege. [Green box with 12 white counters, 12 purple counters, 24 orange soldiers, 2 black soldiers and rules. Reverse of lid is a board for Nine men's Morris, base of box is a draughts board. Germany, c.1850.] JJ Games 28(2)

On wall

42. The Overland Mail from England to India. Dartford: J.A. Reeves, [c.1855]. JJ Games folder (27)

43. The new game of the Royal Mail or London to Edinburgh, by L & N.W. Railway. London: John Jaques & Son, [c.1886]. JJ Games folder (28)

44. Bowles's British geographical amusement, or Game of geography; in a most compleat and elegant tour thro' England, Wales, and the adjoining parts of Scotland & Ireland. London: Carington Bowles, 1780. JJ Games 26 (1)

Toy Theatre

45. The 'Neptune' toy theatre. [Hoxton, Benjamin Pollock?, early 20th century. With scenes and characters from The Corsican brothers.] Kindly lent by Peter Baldwin.


On wall


Jigsaws and dissected puzzles

53. Whole length portraits of the Kings and Queens of England, displayed in chronological order, exhibiting the age, death, and character, of each monarch, with the principal events of their reign. [83 pieces.] (London:) John Passmore, [c.1847]. [Title and imprint from the box; Passmore is on a strip pasted over the original imprint; Edward Wallis is named as publisher on the puzzle.] JJ Games 13(2)

54. The dockyard with the ship in all its stages. [Wooden box with 46 (of 48) pieces.] London: John Betts, [c.1845]. JJ Games 25(10)

55. The miracles of our saviour. [46 (of 49) pieces, one of which is unrelated. [J.R.]Barfoot, c.1860.] JJ Games 25(9)

56. Roarem Castle. [A game. Board with 36 counters (of which 5 are numbered 2 and one 3) on 2 pieces of card, a strip of 12 tokens, teetotum, and rules.] London: Standring & Co., 1860. JJ Games 27(3)

57. Roarem Castle. A game. [A jigsaw puzzle. Wooden box with rules, Guide sheet, 40 counters (of which 5 are numbered 2) on 2 pieces of card, and 42 pieces. 1860s.] JJ Games 27(4)

58. Landseer series. Double dissected puzzle. [43 pieces. c.1860.] JJ Games 13(6)

59. The importance of punctuality. [88 pieces, incomplete.] London: Bogue, [c.1870]. JJ Games 8(5)

Alphabets are fun

60. Panoramic alphabet. (First series.) Leeds: Webb and Millington, [c.1850]. JJ Alphabets 1

61. Richardson's new royal battledore. Derby: Thomas Richardson, [c.1820]. JJ Battledores
63. *C.N. Wright’s new & improved battledore.* Nottingham: C.N. Wright, [c.1840]. JJ Battledores
64. *Elliott’s new battledore.* Hereford: printed by R. Elliott, [c.1820]. JJ Battledores
69. [French military panoramic alphabet. Wanting lower board. c. 1840.] JJ Alphabets 1
71. *The picture alphabet for a good child.* [32 card discs (1 in facsimile) in wooden drum. c.1820.] JJ Games 11(5)
72. [A hornbook, beginning +Aabc, containing the alphabet, Lord’s Prayer, &c. London? c.1620.] Arch A f.11
73. *Letters, words, and objects.* Beautifully colored, for good children. Nottingham and London: (Stevenson & Yates), [c.1850]. JJ Alphabets 1
74. *Harlequin’s ABC.* London: (W.S. Johnson), [c.1850]. JJ Alphabets 1
75. *The little wonder ABC and picture blocks.* [19 (of 24?) wooden blocks in a wooden box with sliding lid. c.1850.] JJ Games 11(4)
76. *Improved moveable alphabet.* [Hand-coloured picture-card, with volvelle showing letters through cut-out window. c.1850.] JJ Alphabets 3
77. *Letters and short words, or Alphabetical dominoes.* [124 (of 125) wooden dominoes in a wooden box with sliding lid; instructions pasted on inside of lid; accompanying advertisement sheet.] London: D. Ogilvy, [c.1850]. JJ Games 11(1)
80. *Mama’s little pet’s ABC.* (Read & Co.’s inimitable toy books.) London: Read & Co., [c.1860]. JJ Alphabets 1
81. *ABC pictures and letters.* [9 wooden squares in a wooden box with sliding lid. c.1850.] JJ Games 12(4)
82. *... Picture alphabet cards.* [25 cards (1 duplicated) in a card box, top missing.] London & Edinburgh: T. Nelson & Sons, [1880?]. JJ Alphabets 1
83. *Grandmamma Easy’s Alderman’s feast; a new alphabet.* London: Dean & Son, [1858?]. JJ Alphabets 1

**The little builder**

85. *Stone educational blocks. No. 0. [Box with 19 blocks and a sheet of 24 patterns.] Hungary, [1920s–1930s]. JJ Games 2 (17)
86. *Wenebrix an instructive architectural toy.* [1916]. JJ Indoor Games 9
88. *Patent-building-brick-boxes.* Leipzig: Leipziger Lehrmittel-Anstalt (Dr. Oskar Schneider), [1885?]. JJ Indoor Games 9
89. “The Toy the Child likes best” is the Anchor Box! [Advertising card.] Rudolstadt: Richter’s Printing Works, [1893?]. JJ Indoor Games 9
90. *The little builder or how a child may make a cardboard village without using any adhesive material, a toy-book for all seasons.* London: Ward & Lock, [1860]. 2529 d.247

**Parlour games**

94. *A new and original book of forfeits, or, Recreations of mirth for juvenile parties.* London: T. Hughes, [1831?]. Opie K 52
95. *A new book of games and forfeits ... with plain directions for crying the forfeits.* London: Dean and Munday, [1833?]. Opie K 54
99. *Badcock, John. Philosophical recreations, or Winter amusements: a collection of entertaining & surprising experiments in mechanics, arithmetic, optics, hydrostatics, hydraulics, pneumatics, electricity, chemistry, magnetism, & pyrotechny, or the art of making fireworks... London: for
The speculum; or, Art of drawing in water colours:

Thomas Hughes, sold by Sams, Mills, Boudery and Kirby and Allison, [c.1820]. 38491 F29

100. The little marvel is a parlour steam engine. [London:] Stereoscopic and Photographic Company, [c.1850]. JJ Indoor Games 9


Brush, pen and pencil

102. The progress of education. [Engraved writing blank.] (London), R. Harrild, 1810. Harding B 44(34)

103. Infantile sports. [Engraved writing blank.] London: Laurie & Whittle, 1801. Opie Collection


105. Queen Elizabeth at Tilbury Fort. [Engraved writing blank.] London: W. Belch and J. Phelps, [c.1850]. Harding B 44(14)


107. Harlequin and Mother Goose: or The golden egg. [Engraved writing blank.] London: Laurie & Whittle, 1807. Opie Collection

108. [Exercise book used by Elinor Eddowes in 1773.] JJ Exercise books 4

109. [Exercise book used by James Beek in 1785.] JJ Exercise books 4

110. [Two quills. 19th century.] JJ Stationery artefacts B1

111. Improved inkstand. [c.1850]. JJ Stationery artefacts D1

112. London portable nib pens. [c.1850]. JJ Stationery artefacts B5


114. [Blank book in flowery Dutch gilt wrappers, used by a child for stories in French and watercolours in 1798.] JJ Exercise books 4

115. Drawing slate. [With Directions and two strips of four patterns each. c.1890s.] JJ Games 5(12)

116. [Transparent drawing slate with ruler, crayon and sponge, without patterns.] c.1900. JJ Games 5(13)

117. Young artists water colours. [A paint box by unidentified manufacturer. c.1870.] JJ Games 6(2)

118. Non plus ultra Elephant book slate warranted. [Four parchment slates. n.pl., 1867?] JJ Games 5(8)

119. [Exercise book, numbered vol. 12, containing watercolour drawings of domestic events in the family of C.H. Wybergh, vicar of Isell, Cumbria, painted by his children in 1848.] MS Johnson e.19/2

120. [Another Wybergh family exercise book, 1850–1853.] MS Johnson e.19/5

121. My paint box. [1890]. JJ Games 6(10)

122. Hassell, J. The speculum; or, Art of drawing in water colours:

with instructions for sketching from nature. The third edition, with additional plates. London: for the author, and sold by Sherwood, Neely, and Jones, 1816. Opie K 5


125. Choriorama, and Youth's instructor in the art of composing & drawing landscape scenery. [Box, 16 strips, and instruction booklet.] London: J. Burgess, [c.1825]. JJ Games 5(1)

126. Polyorama, or Endless changes of landscapes. [Box and 16 strips, unnumbered.] London: Hodgson & Co., [c.1824]. JJ Games 5(2)

127. Le Milliorama. Se compose de douze fragments de paysages qui, combinés ensemble trois par trois, donnent 1320 compositions différentes. [Paris?, c.1825.] Opie E66


Outdoor Games

130. Weibliche Gÿmnastik. Exercices de gymnastique pour les dames. Female gymnastics. [Box containing 20 blocks, instructions, and sheet of illustrations for the figured dance.] From R. McMichael's English and Foreign Bazaar, [London, c.1840]. JJ Games 27(7)

131. School boys' diversions: with proper directions for playing them. Second edition. In which are introduced several new and popular sports. Embellished with three beautiful engravings. From designs by R. Stennett. London: Dean and Munday, [1823?]. Opie K 81

132. [Puzzle blocks of children playing. A box containing 12 blocks and 5 guide sheets. 1860s.] JJ Games 15(2)


A Christmas box (until January 2006)

137. Three Christmas cards of slates, c.1890. JJ Christmas Cards 6


139. Nine Christmas and New Year cards with embossed borders, some with mica flecks, 1870s? JJ Christmas Cards 4

140. Four gold and colour printed Christmas and New Year cards, 1870s? JJ Christmas cards 5

141. Sheet of 18 scraps of toys, c.1890s. JJ Scraps 6

142. Ye Christmas pantomime. [Pop-up Christmas card. B. Sulman, 1870s?] JJ Christmas card exhibition box

143. Three chromolithographs of children with alphabet blocks displaying Christmas and New Year greetings, c.1900. JJ Christmas Cards 5


152. Scrap of Santa with presents and children, embossed, with mica flecks, 1890s?. JJ Scraps 8