

Kids Who Survived

Original Source Unknown.

Forwarded by Marilyn, of Bingham County, Idaho.

This is about the kids who survived the 1930's, 1940's, 1950's, 1960's and 1970's.

First, we survived being born to mothers who smoked and/or drank while they were pregnant. They took aspirin, ate blue cheese dressing, tuna from a can, and they didn't get tested for diabetes. Then, after all of that trauma, we were put to sleep on our tummies in baby cribs covered with bright colored lead-based paints. We didn't have childproof lids on our medicine bottles. We didn't have childproof latches on our doors or cabinets, and when we rode our bikes, we didn't wear helmets, not to mention, the risks we took hitchhiking. As infants and children, we rode in cars without car seats, booster seats, seat belts, or air bags. Riding in the back of a pick up on a warm day was a special treat. We drank water from the garden hose and not from a bottle. We shared soft drinks with our friends, from one bottle, and nobody actually died from it. We ate cupcakes, white bread, real butter, and drank Kool-aid made with sugar, but we weren't overweight, because we were always outside playing.

We would leave home in the morning and play all day, as long as we were back when the streetlights came on. No one was able to reach us all day. and we were okay. We would spend hours building go-carts out of scraps and then ride down the hill, only to discover that we forgot the brakes. After running into the bushes a few times, we learned how to solve the problem. We didn't have Playstations, Nintendo's, X-boxes, or video games. We didn't have 150 channels on cable, video movies, DVD's, surround-sound, CD's, cell phones, personal computers, Internet, or chat rooms. We had friends and we went outside and found them. We fell out of trees, got cut, broke bones and teeth, and there weren't any lawsuits. We ate worms and mud pies made from dirt, and the worms didn't live in us forever. We were given BB guns for our 10th birthdays, made up games with sticks and tennis balls and, although we were told it would happen, we did not poke out very many eyes. We rode bikes or walked to a friend's house and knocked on the door or rang the bell, or just walked in. Little League had tryouts and not everyone made the team. Those who didn't make the team had to learn to deal with disappointment.

The idea of a parent bailing us out if we landed in jail was unheard of. They actually sided with the cops. Those generations have produced some of the best risk-takers, problem solvers, and inventors ever. The past 50 years have been an explosion of innovation and new ideas. We had freedom, failure, success, and responsibility, and we learned how to deal with it all. If you are one of them congratulations!

You might want to share this with others who had the luck to grow up as kids before the lawyers and the government regulated so much of our lives, for our own good. While you're at it, forward it to your kids so they'll know how brave and how lucky their parents were.

Kind of makes you want to run through the house carrying scissors, doesn't it?