



## DESCRIPTION AND SUGGESTED USES

The American Toy and Tool Company of Chicago, Illinois manufactured and sold his toy tool set in 1950. It is a typical example of the popular toys for boys of the era. Artifact courtesy of the Colorado Springs Pioneers' Museum.

## SUGGESTED USES

1. Compare and contrast this toy tool chest with toys of today.
  - a. How is this toy the same as toys of today?
  - b. What is different about the toys of today?
    - i. *Are they made of the same materials*
    - ii. *Are they more sophisticated in their function or operation*
  - c. Have toys really changed over the years, or do children play with essentially the same toys that have been updated to reflect changes in materials or manufacture?
2. What does this toy from 1950 tell us about society at the time it was made?
  - a. Why were certain items included and other excluded?
  - b. Does this toy reflect any kind of gender bias?
  - c. Would this toy be popular today? Why or why not?
  - d. If you were manufacturing this toy today, what would you include as “common tools” in our society?