American Girl Archival Note Sheet





* Easy-bake Oven, 1964
* Cincinnati, Ohio
* Which collection? How was it obtained?
	+ Wisconsin Historical Society
	+ Donated by Marie Larsen
		- Purchased for grandson
		- Generally seen as girl toy
* What to Know About the Product:
	+ Targeted to young girls
	+ Set includes baking tools
* Significance to our study of American Girls/Girlhood
	+ Demonstrates marketing to female community of domesticity
	+ Stereotypical gender norms for play
	+ Representation of domestic scripted play in girlhood



American Girl’s Homebook, p.276, Hellen Campbell, 1883

Kenner’s Easy-Bake Oven with accessories, Cincinnati, Ohio, 1964

* American Girl’s Homebook, p.276
* Hellen Campbell, 1883
* Various activities and rules for girls
	+ Doll houses, make-believe housekeeping, dress making, sewing.
* Domesticity and play emphasized in girlhood
* Relation to the keywords essay
	+ Ideas about domesticity
* Writing style
	+ Primp and proper tone
	+ Reflects values of properness and domesticity was in girlhood during this time
* About the author
	+ Hellen Campbell
	+ Seems to place a high emphasis on appearance and behavior of young girls
	+ Views girlhood as a timeframe to mold young girls into respectable and proper young women
	+ Values a domestic girlhood by encouraging domestic play and respectable behavior
* Historical Context
	+ Written in 1883, commonly read by young girls
	+ Used to give young girls ideas of past time activities
* Our Study of American Girls and Girlhood
	+ Demonstrates our discussions about domesticity and play
	+ Shows how play during girlhood has changed over the years.



1968, “Mother’s Helper” board game and accessories, Milton Bradley Company, Springfield, Massachusetts

* Mother’s Helper board game, 1968
* Milton Bradley Company, Springfield, Massachusetts
* What to Know About the Product:
	+ Combines competition and learning domestic duties
	+ Complete chores to be the winning Mother’s Helper
	+ Targeted to young girls
* Which collection? How was it obtained?
	+ Wisconsin Historical Society
	+ Donated by anonymous client
* Significance to our study of American Girls/Girlhood
	+ Enforces the idea of domesticity
	+ Popular children’s toy that teaches idea of domesticity
	+ Attraction to domestic roles for young girls