

May 25

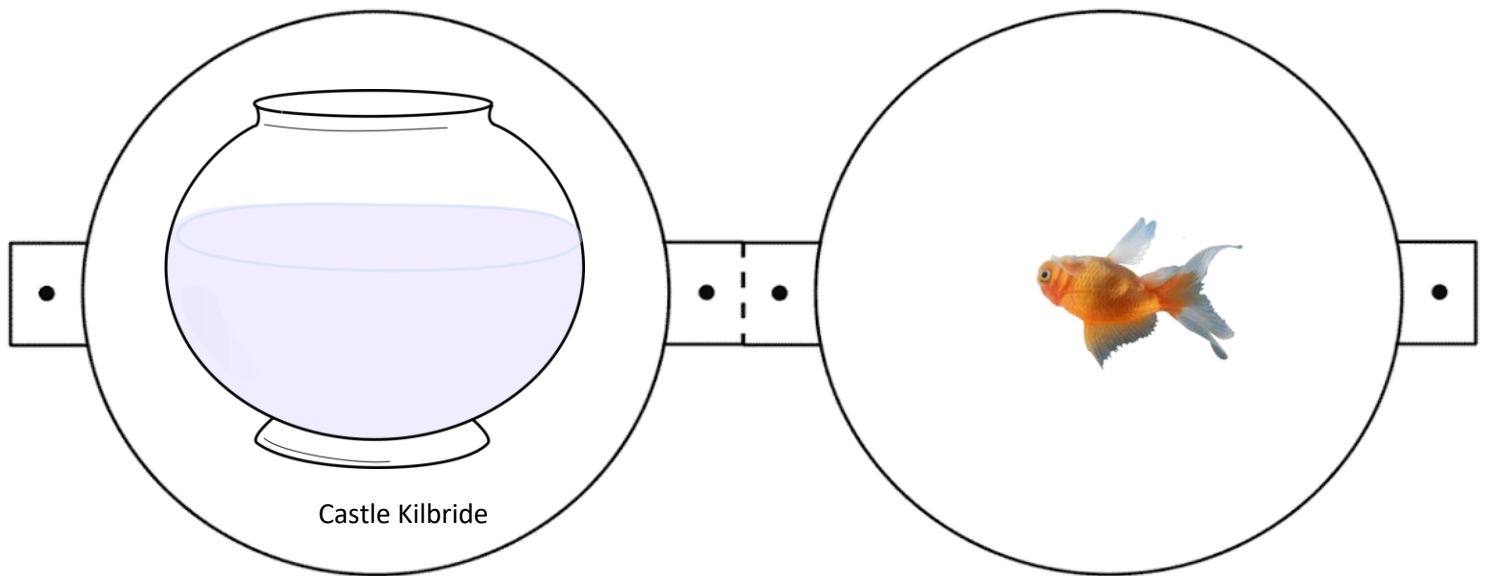
Toys! Toys! Toys

May 24th, 1918 was one of the happiest days at Castle Kilbride as that was the day Laura Louise Livingston was born! The only child of J.P. and Laura, her childhood included music lessons, dance lessons, luxury trips and exquisite gifts. The gifts included many intriguing toys. Her collection grew so large that it is said she had one of the largest toy collections in Canada. What are your favourite toys? At the museum we like thaumatropes. A thaumatrope is an optical toy that was popular in the 19th century. A disk with a picture on each side is attached to two pieces of string. When the strings are twirled quickly between the fingers the two pictures appear to blend into one image due to the persistence of vision.

Activity: Make your own "historic" toy- a thaumatrope.

Create your own wonder spinner or download ours attached below. The key is to make sure the other side is upside down. You will need paper, scissors, 2 pieces of string, hole punch, pencil and pencil crayons.





# Wonder Spinner

What you will need:

Printed template, hole punch, scissors, 2 pieces of string

1. Cut out the wonder spinner along the grey line, fold in center on dotted line.
2. Use a hole punch to punch one hole on each side (use dots).
3. Thread one piece of string on each side.
4. To use: hold each string with your hands and spin wrists to wind up. Carefully pull string apart and look in the center. (\*Do not pull too hard or you will rip the paper.) The two images come together to form one image.
5. Try to create your own designs like a net on one side and a puck on the other. A bird in a cage. A spider on a web. So many possibilities.

