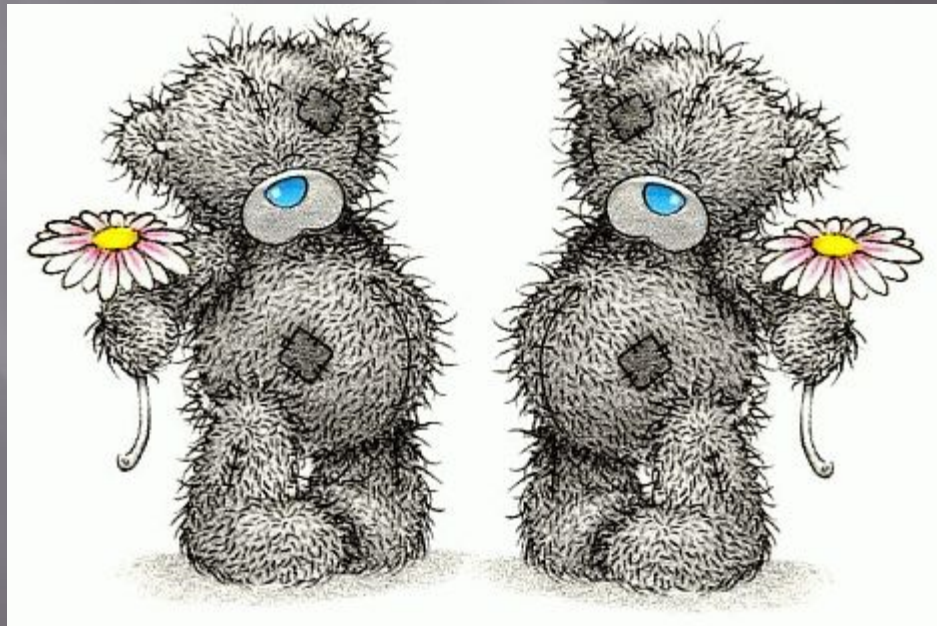


School name Lenina
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CREATING HISTORY TEDDY BEARS



October 27 in the U.S.A, the UK and the Scandinavian countries celebrate Teddy Bear. In 2003, the 100th anniversary of the beginning of mass production of teddy bears. Interestingly enough, this toy has been seen as the president of the United States and immigrants from Russia.

For many years, there is a dispute between the United States and Germany about where was made the first Teddy. And it so happened that the bear appeared almost simultaneously in both countries, and is named in honor of U.S.A. President Theodore Roosevelt.



President Theodore
Roosevelt

The story began in late October 1902. In the German city Geyngene (Giengen) lived Richard Steiff - designer toys, who worked in the family firm founded by his aunt Margaret Steiff. One day Richard went to a visiting circus, and there he saw a group of trained bears. They gave him a brilliant idea. Richard came up with a bear toy, which by its structure was similar to the dolls. He stood straight, feet and his head turned freely. Sure, teddy bears existed before, and were often made of this fur. But all of them were replicas of forest dwellers and stood on four legs, a Steiff teddy bear was standing on its hind legs like a circus.



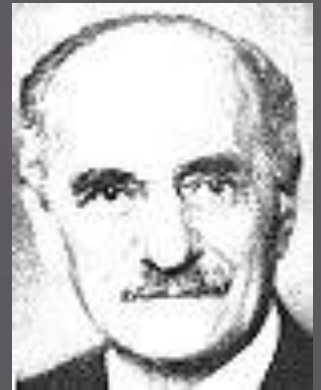
Margaret Steiff



Meanwhile, a few thousand miles from Germany, started the second half of the history of Teddy Bears. In late 1902, U.S.A. President Theodore Roosevelt (Theodore Roosevelt spared the hunt bear). This event has become an occasion for jokes - for example, in one of the cartoons, bears delegation demanded from Roosevelt to conclude a non-aggression pact of humanity. One of the cartoons in the newspaper Washington Evening Star (no longer exists) caught the eye of Morris Michtom (real name unknown), immigrants from Russia, the owner of a toy store in New York.



President Theodore
Roosevelt of the hunt

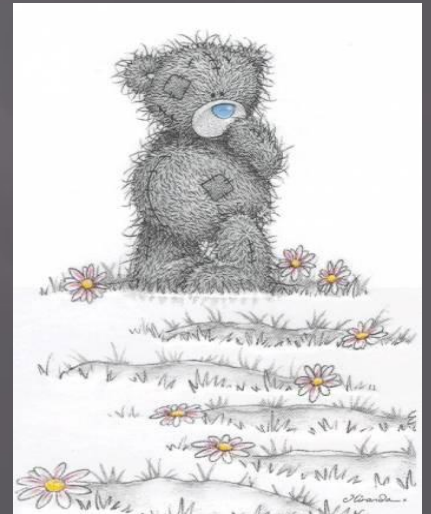


Morris Michtom

Morris's wife - Rose (Rose made the first teddy bear in the image and likeness of the cartoons). Teddy bear was mounted on a shop window next to a caricature, and in honor of U.S.A. President was given the name "Teddy Bear" (Teddy - caressing version of the name Theodore). Michtom was struck by how many people have started to refer to him with a request to purchase this toy. Merchant addressed Roosevelt asking to give his name and got a new toy consent.



In 1903, a Russian emigrant founded the Ideal Toy Company, which took issue bears. Regardless of Michtoma same bear was invented in Austria. The owner of the studio toys Margaret Steiff. Margarete Steiff also created his own version of the bear, which were moving legs and head. In 1903, the Austrian cubs began to export to the U.S.A. The success of teddy bears was stunning. Michtomu but he did not bring wealth. Michtom made two major business mistakes: he patented a new toy and her name. As a result, in the early twentieth century, in almost all countries of the world were created by companies that specialize in producing cubs. In Europe alone, there were over forty.



American historian Frank Murphy, author of the study ("The Legend of the Teddy Bear") cites a number of interesting facts. The first book of stories about the adventures of a teddy-bear (the author - writer Alice Sklott) was published in 1907 in the United States during this time, around the world it was about 400 books of various authors, in which the main character was a teddy bear. Of these, the most widely known story by English writer Alexander Milne's "Winnie the Pooh", first published in 1926. In 1909, the U.S.A. had the first song on the teddy bear ("Teddy Bear Two Step"). After that, only in the U.S.A. and the UK was created about 80 songs on the same theme. The first cartoon teddy bear was shot in 1909. The great cartoonist Walt Disney made his first cartoon teddy bear in 1924, and in 1975 created a film about Winnie the Pooh.



"The Legend of the Teddy Bear"



Walt Disney
with their heroes

American historian Charles NPA (Charles Panati), author of the book "Extraordinary origins of ordinary things", believes that the invention is a teddy bear was the starting point for technological progress. Originally Teddy bears made from fur and expensive fabrics. But the massive demand require manufacturers reduce the cost of raw materials. Therefore, in 1903 for the manufacture of bearskin began using plush fabric, previously used mainly for upholstery. That teddy bear inspired fabric manufacturers to develop special materials designed exclusively for children. In 1930, after the timers are relatively cheap, bears have become the first mass clockwork toys. After the advent of cheap electric batteries in 1950, the first toy in which they were used, as were teddy bears. Teddy Bear was the first "talking" toys, which can be bathed (model appeared in 1956.)



Throughout the world, opened more than twenty museums teddy bears. In the world there are tens of thousands of collectors of toys - especially for them produced a limited batch of teddy bears. The famous auction Christie conducts periodic auctions, which exhibited only a teddy bear. The most expensive copy of Teddy, produced in 1929, mohair, was sold for \$ 90 thousand.



Teddy Bear

Today, there is everything about Teddy. Postcards, picture books, jewelry, designer clothes, casual clothes, dishes, comics, teddies as advertising, teddies as art objects, books and journals for teddy bear collectors and the Vienna Teddy Bear Museum!



Teddy Bear Museum

Teddy Bear

