



The idea of different colours for boys and girls started in the 1800s, but it wasn't always the same as we know now. For a while, the trend was that pink was a colour for boys, and blue was a colour for girls. Decades later, the idea of pink for girls and blue for boys was established by clothing companies (manufacturers and retailers).

This photo is of Franklin Roosevelt from 1884, and shows what was normal for children to wear up to the age of 6 or 7. For centuries, white was considered most practical because it could be bleached, and dresses for small kids were considered gender neutral.

By the 1950s, girls and boys typically wore very different clothing. Girls and Women were not allowed to wear pants to school. Boys were not allowed to wear dresses.







Ask, "What do you think of children's clothing today?"

Do you think there are any rules or expectations?

Does what we wear affect what we do and how we act?



During the 1960s, clothing changed with the women's liberation movement. Kids wore more gender neutral clothing, with the thought that:

'If we dress our girls more like boys and less like frilly little girls . . . they are going to have more options and feel freer to be active.'

