

# Spike's Object Activity

#SpikeDinosAdventures

Theme; Communication



## Communication—Typewriters

Spike found this machine in the Museum and wondered what it could be for. There are lots of buttons with letters on them and a strange bracket that moves across the back.

There's no label or caption with it so what could it be? Spike did the sensible thing and asked one of the museum team. Here's what he

found out; This is a machine called a typewriter and was used to type writing onto paper. The modern version of this is a computer keyboard that types the writing onto a screen before we print it out. This is quite an early typewriter. An American engineer called George C Blickensderfer designed the first typewriters. In 1910, the Blick company started to produce the Blick Featherweight with a fold-away ink frame. This machine, famously described in ads as 'The Five pound Secretary' (weight) is almost certainly the lightest portable typewriter ever produced.



**Activity; Write a letter:** Today, write a letter to a special person—it could be to a friend, a grandparent or even your teacher. Tell them about what you have been doing this week, what you've seen, learned, read. You could include a picture too. If you can post it or put it through their door then do, you'll make someone smile.

Supported using public funding by