



Fidget spinners of the past

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Fidget spinners became internet famous almost overnight and even managed to hit the Bangladeshi market within a short span of time. While they might be all the rage now, and available readily thanks to our fellow Asian country, there have always been toys that we had around us with the same utility.

LATIM

The good old top was once very popular and those who mastered all the tricks were considered the coolest kids in the hood. Those days might be long gone but now is the best time to bring back the OG spinning toy. This toy required a lot more skill than just a flick and was probably more satisfying as a result.

YO-YO

It took me a long time to remember this name and I'm

just ancient enough to have owned one. I wasn't quite tall enough to manage to utilise mine but I remember my cousins owning a whole array, ranging from wooden ones to plastic ones that lit up and played music. Once upon a time, these were prized possessions and those who knew a trick or two were the people you needed to be friends with. Toy stores still sell these gems. Grab one and see if you can make it spin. You'll probably get the chance to do some arm workout in the process.

MAGNETIC MARBLES

These were made popular by vendors tossing them into the air and then catching them, with the two pieces coming into contact making a very distinct *zoing* sound. I don't know if these shiny, chrome spherical objects served any purpose beyond creating an annoying sound but everyone was hooked and the fad lasted quite some time. I'm pretty sure these are still sold in Cox's Bazar, where

they first started appearing from, but it might be hard to find them now. I'm secretly grateful for that.

BEYBLADES

The closest thing to the current fidget spinners is probably Beyblades. I don't remember watching a single episode of the cartoon but even I owned one and battled it out with my cousins. Random broken bits from the wrecked ones can still be found in my house. Good times!

Fidget spinners may just turn out to be a fad that will go away soon. If you find yourself getting bored of your fidget toy, try an old school one till something new pops up on social media.

Nooha Sabanta Maula is an Anthropology major whose anthropologising has made her confused about life. Send her your thoughts to noohamaula@gmail.com

UWC National Committee welcomes new students and alumni

A CORRESPONDENT

The National Committee of United World College (UWC) Society for Bangladesh with their newly elected president, Raquib Md. Fakhrul (Rocky) organised a farewell dinner for the students leaving for their 2-year IB Diploma at Gulshan Club in Dhaka on July 22, 2017. A graduation ceremony was also held at the same event for the students who were back after completing their IB Diploma. Parents and the members of the National Committee were also present to celebrate the occasion along with their families.

UWC is a global education movement that makes education a force to unite people, nations and cultures for peace and a sustainable future. It has more than 17 schools and colleges in 4 different continents and also has National Committees in more than 155 countries. UWC aims to select students of different races, ethnicities, backgrounds and cultural dynamics, and brings them together



to engage in a variety of academic, educational and extra-curricular activities. Furthermore, these schools also provide scholarships and financial aid for meritorious students. The ultimate goal of such a unique educational institution is to ensure a peaceful and sustainable future. The history of the formation of UWC goes back to 1962 during the height of

cold war. The initiative was undertaken by a German educationalist named Kurt Hahn at the first UWC (then called Atlantic College), located in Wales, UK. His aim was to bring young people who have experienced mental trauma in various conflicts to get education based on shared learning, collaboration and understanding so that they can build a better

future. The UWC colleges still share this value and aspire to bring together young people from all over the world for understanding and respecting each other's culture in order to avoid future conflicts.

The national committee of Bangladesh has played a very important role in increasing the number of students going to UWC colleges and are currently playing an active role in ensuring that the prospective students are aware of the opportunities available for them at UWC colleges around the world.

The successful organisation of the UWC event would not have been possible without the active participation of UWC alumni. At the event, the alumni shared their experiences which encouraged the newcomers to look forward to their future at UWC.

More information about United World College Society for Bangladesh can be accessed at www.uwcbd.org. Emails can also be sent at administrator@uwcbd.org for further detailed information.