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Vocabulary: crazes **词汇:** 热潮

School playground crazes come and go but the latest **collectable** toy is proving popular with children and adults alike. My kids have **gone mad for** the plastic spinning disc called a fidget spinner and I have to admit, I've become a little **addicted** too – but why?

Fidget spinners have **taken the world by storm**. They were originally designed to help kids with conditions like **autism** deal with **stress** but they have become a popular toy and they're helping reduce my stress levels too – when there's something on my mind I just spin!

So what's the **big deal** about these **three-pronged** pieces of rotating plastic? Well, there are many different designs and colours to collect and then there's the challenge of spinning them, getting the speed up, balancing it on the end of your finger. On video-sharing websites, **vloggers** have amassed millions of views from performing tricks with their fidget spinners. Richard Gottlieb, founder of US-based consultancy Global Toy Experts, says adults are increasingly turning to fidget toys because he says, with all the bad news in the world, "it is a good time to be selling something that allows an individual to fidget off some stress – particularly at a time when smoking is looked down on."

For most school children, they've become the latest '**must-have**' accessory, although some schools have banned them, saying some are poorly made and can be a distraction for pupils. However, one teacher, Ms Timmons, says that they can aid learning among some children. She says "these fidget toys are one way of allowing them to fidget without the **disruption** of the tapping pencils or the tapping of feet. It's a much less disruptive way to **channel their energies** into something else while the teaching is going on."

Fidget spinners join a long and **distinguished** list of other childhood favourites now living in the teacher's top drawer. It wasn't long ago when our homes and school playgrounds were littered with **loom bands** as they suddenly became must-have accessories. Billions of them were sold and then made into various forms of rubbery jewellery. One teacher, Guy Tarrant, has **confiscated** numerous items from children over the years. He says: "There's so much stuff, so many **fads** and stages. I worked as a supply teacher in over 150 schools so I've probably seen it all."

It's probably fair to say fidget spinners won't always be **flavour of the month**. Eventually they'll be confined to the bin, to be replaced by a new equally addictive and annoying craze.

词汇表

collectable	值得收藏的
go mad for something/someone	对某物/人着迷
addicted	上瘾的，沉迷在某事中
take the world by storm	在全球大获成功，完全征服世界各地的人们
autism	孤独症，自闭症
stress	压力
big deal	大事，要事
three-pronged	三齿的
vlogger	博主
must-have	必备的
disruption	打断，影响
channel their energies	把注意力倾注到（某事）
distinguished	重要的
loom band	彩虹橡皮筋
confiscate	没收
fad	短暂的狂热
flavour of the month	（某时期内）最受欢迎的人或物

测验与练习

1. 阅读课文并回答问题。

1. What does a fidget spinner do?
2. How have some people been showing off their fidget spinning tricks?
3. Why have some schools banned fidget spinners?
4. True or false: *Fidget spinners are more popular than loom bands.*
5. Where do many of the items confiscated in school, end up?

2. 请你在不参考课文的情况下完成下列练习。选择一个意思合适的单词填入句子的空格处。

1. My wife has a shopping _____; she buys a new pair of shoes every week!

addict	addicted	addiction	addicting
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2. It's no _____ running five miles, I ran ten last night!

must-have	distraction	flavour of the month	big deal
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3. Immigration officers _____ the man's fake passport when he tried to enter the country.

confiscated	distracted	stressed	collectable
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4. All the shoe shops have sold out of the latest _____ brand of trainers.

must-haves	mustn't-have	must-have	must-not
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5. I don't think wearable tech will be around for long, it's just a _____.

distraction	fad	collectable	vlogger
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答案

1. 阅读课文并回答问题。

1. What does a fidget spinner do?

It rotates on the end of your finger.

2. How have some people been showing off their fidget spinning tricks?

Putting videos on video-sharing websites.

3. Why have some schools banned fidget spinners?

They claim they are poorly made and can be a distraction for pupils.

4. True or false: *Fidget spinners are more popular than loom bands.*

False. That's not said but it's probably fair to say fidget spinners won't always be flavour of the month.

5. Where do many of the items confiscated in school, end up?

In the teacher's top draw.

2. 请你在不参考课文的情况下完成下列练习。选择一个意思合适的单词填入句子的空格处。

1. My wife has a shopping **addiction**; she buys a new pair of shoes every week!

2. It's no **big deal** running five miles, I ran ten last night!

3. Immigration officers **confiscated** the man's fake passport when he tried to enter the country.

4. All the shoe shops have sold out of the latest **must-have** brand of trainers.

5. I don't think wearable tech will be around for long, it's just a **fad**.