Rag Doll

Rag Dolls have been common for children to make and play with since the 1st century! Often made from leftover scraps of fabric, these dolls could be made by adults and children and carried everywhere. Since they were made out of the same materials as the clothing people wore, they were also easy to clean and take care of. They were also called “church dolls” because children could take them to places where they needed to be quiet, such as during church services, and if the doll was dropped it would not make any noise!

Woodrow Wilson’s sisters, Marion and Annie, had quite a few rag dolls, and would often set them up and play tea time with them. They would have been made by Jessie, their mother, with leftover fabric in the house.