

Dr. Toy's Holiday Gift Guide

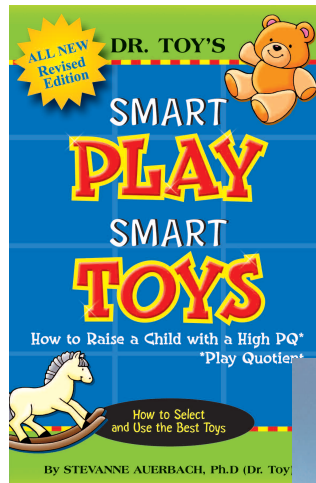


Dr. Toy's 100 Best Children's Products for 2006

Toys, books, software, games, puzzles, audio and video, and much more...

Dr. Toy makes product selections based on the following criteria:

- safety
- innovation
- design and durability
- age appropriateness
- long lasting play value
- cultural and ethnic diversity
- good transition from home to school
- educational value and learning skills
- creativity
- improves understanding of the community and the world (socially responsible)
- good value for price, and,
- just plain fun!



Smart Toys +
Smart Play =
Smart Kids!



Dr. Toy's Tips For Keeping Toys Safe & Clean

- Watch for small parts, sharp edges, loose ties, or other possible dangers for small children under the age of 3.
 - Be sure products are labeled non-toxic.
 - Cover exposed electric sockets.
 - Toys handled frequently by infants and toddlers should be cleaned and disinfected or when soiled, to prevent the spread of germs.
 - Follow these steps for washable, colorfast toys:
 1. Wash toys with soapy water, then rinse thoroughly
 2. Clean toys with a solution of 3/4 cup household bleach in 1 gallon of water. Let stand for 5 minutes.
 3. Rinse completely and dry.
- For more tips on disinfecting with household bleach, contact: www.Clorox.Com



About Dr. Toy

Dr. Toy, Stevanne Auerbach, Ph.D., Director of the Institute for Childhood Resources, San Francisco, produces an annual holiday guide, "100 Best Children's Products," is an expert in child development, author of Dr. Toy's Smart Play/Smart Toys and Toys for a Lifetime, a frequent writer of articles, consultant, and speaker about toys, children's products, play and parenting issues.

Dr. Toy's Guide (www.drtoy.com) was the first site to provide toy information on the internet.



Dr. Toy's Tips on Selecting Toys and Other Children's Products

Before shopping observe child at play. Gather a list of possible products from Dr. Toy's Holiday Guide: "100 Best Children's Products" and from Dr. Toy's Guide: web site (drtoy.com). Ask for suggestions from sitter, grandparents, teacher and other parents. Notice store and product ads. Check your child's "Wish List" and current needs. **As you examine a potential purchase, ask yourself...**

- 1. Is the toy safe?** Any potential hazards? Is the product too small? Any sharp edges or loose ties? Is it nontoxic? Durable? Will it take rough treatment? Does it meet Consumer Product Safety Standards? Is there a guarantee on the product? What is the return policy?
- 2. Is the product fun?** A toy or children's product is supposed to entertain the child. It should amuse, delight, excite, and be enjoyable.
- 3. Is the product appropriate?** Is this toy or product significant now? Does it fit the child's age, skills, and abilities? Will it hold interest? Will child use the product happily?
- 4. Is the product well designed?** Is it easy to use? Does it look good? Feel good? Is the product versatile? Is there more than one use for the product?
- 5. Is the product durable?** Will it be something that will last a long time? Children play hard and subject their toys to a lot of abuse and wear.
- 6. Is the product appealing to the child?** Does it offer an opportunity for fun, to learn, and to think? Does it help him/her learn about living environment? Is the toy or product inviting?
- 7. Will the product help the child expand creativity?** With the right products the child can expand his or her imagination in art, crafts, drama, hobbies, language, reading, music and physical movement.
- 8. Will the toy frustrate or challenge the child?** Does the toy offer something new to learn, to practice, or try? Will the child know how to use the product? Or, will it be too difficult to use without adult assistance?
- 9. Does the product match the package and the package match the product?** If the toy does not match ads or packaging it can be disappointing. Is age-grading clear?
- 10. Will the toy help nurture childhood?** Does the product help the child express emotions, experience concern for others, practice positive social interaction? Does it provide value to his or her childhood? Or, are there any violent, sexist, or other negative aspects to the product?
- 11. What will the toy teach?** Does it help expand positive self-esteem, values, understanding, and cultural awareness? Does it offer practice in skill building? Eye/hand coordination? Fine and large motor skills? Communication? Does it educate the child about the environment? Community? World? History? Computers? Other skills?
- 12. Can the product be cleaned and reused?** If it is not washable, can it be cleaned in some practical way?
- 13. Can I afford this toy?** Does the price match the value?

Say "Toy" around the world!

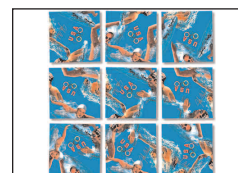
Afrikaans : Speelgoed
 Albanian : Lodra grazie
 Arabic : Lu'ba
 Armenian : Jaghalik
 Assyrian : Thal Yadei
 Bangla : Khelna
 Bosnian : Igrachka
 Croatian : Igrachka
 Czech : Hracka
 Cantonese : Wan Gee
 Mandarin : Wan Ju
 Danish : Legetoej
 Dutch : Speelgoed
 Egyptian : Lu'ba
 English : TOY
 Estonian : Mänguasi
 Farsi : Samanie Bazi Atfal
 Finnish : Leluja
 Flemish : Speeltje
 French : Jouet
 German : Spielzeug
 Greek : Pehnithi
 Haitian Creole : Jwet
 Hawaiian : Mea pa'ani
 Hebrew : Tza'a'tzu'a
 Hindi : Khilona
 Hungarian : Játék
 Icelandic : Leikfang
 Indonesian : Mainan
 Iranian/Farsi : Asbabe Bazie
 Irish : Bréagán
 Italian : Giocattoli
 Japanese : Omocho
 Korean : Jang Nan Gam
 Macedonian : Igracka
 Malay : Barang permainan
 kanakMalayalam : Kalippattam
 Maltese : Gugarell
 Marathi : Khelane
 Netherlands : Speelgoed
 Norwegian : Leke
 Ovambo : Okai Ma Kokudana
 Papiamentu : Kos Di Hunga
 Polish : Zabawka
 Portuguese : Brinquedo
 Romanian : Jucarie
 Russian : Igrushka
 Slovenian : Igracha
 Spanish : Juguete
 Surinam : Pre sani
 Swedish : Leksak
 Tagalog : Laruan
 Tamil : Bommai
 Telugu : Bomma
 Thai : Khong-len'
 Turkish : Oyuncak
 Ukrainian : Igrashka
 Vietnamese : Do choi



Dr. Toy's Suggested Smart Toys to Assist Your Child in Learning & Fun

- 1. b.dazzle Swimming Champions Scramble Squares® Age 4 and up \$8.95**
800-809-4242 www.b-dazzle.com

Mix and match swimming champions with nine 4"x4" brainteaser puzzle pieces that are easy to play, but hard to solve. Learn about and support U.S. Olympic Swimming Champions while gaining patience, perseverance, and critical thinking skills. One hundred different puzzles.



- 2. Briarpatch I Spy Eagle Eye Ages 5-12 \$17.99 800-232-7427**
www.briarpatch.com

Skill-building board game challenges the senses and quick thinking. Players spy object on game board to match object on card and ring bell. First player to capture six cards wins. Easy instructions plus tournament game for advanced players.



- 3. Educational Insights PlayFoam Ages 3-12 \$9.99 800-995-4436 www.edin.com**
Creative product for artistic play. Re-moldable, soft, non-sticking sculpting beads to sculpt endless creations. Does not dry out, crumble, or fade. Gain self-confidence and expand creativity with six foam bricks in six vibrant colors plus an idea sheet.



- 4. Folkmanis Dragon Duo Puppet Ages 5-8 \$48.00 800-654-8922 www.folkmanis.com**
Colorful two-headed dragon puppet measures more than 3 feet long with head at each end. Hold duo in front to operate around shoulders. Animate puppet alone or with a friend or create colorful puppet show. An amazing addition to child's puppet experiences.



- 5. KAPLA Toys 200-Piece Barrel Ages 3-12 \$66.00 912 944 6296 www.kaplatoy.com**
Wooden building blocks your child will enjoy for hours of fantasy, learning, and constructive play. Blocks are exactly the same size for easy manipulation. Made from renewable French pine forests, in seven colors with detailed instructions for endless structures.



- 6. Learning Resources Gears! Gears! Gears!® Illuma.Bot™ Ages 5-8 \$54.95**
800-222-3909 www.learningresources.com

Unique 105-piece construction system to create battery-operated 25 ft. range remote-controlled robot. Develop motor and science skills and plenty of creativity. Color-coded instructions for four motorized models. Requires 7 "AA" batteries.



- 7. Mega Brands Magna Case Ages 6-12 \$49.99 800-465-6342 www.megabrandinc.com**
Sturdy case stores 200 assorted Magnetix, a unique magnetic building system for math, science, and imagination skills. Magna Case allows higher, wider, more dynamic creations and aerial constructions. Design planets, stars, and complex shapes for greater visibility.



- 8. MGA Entertainment Miichiz Ages 6-12 \$29.99 800-222-4685 www.mgae.com**
High-tech system allows child to customize, personalize, and stylize virtual companion. Plug into computer and enter online community to explore, play games, and chat. Many different things to do plus plenty of features, full-color screen, and much more.



- 9. Tangle Toys Tangle Toys Tangle Jr. Dora the Explorer Ages 3-12 \$4.99**
888-829-3808 www.tangletoys.com

Tangles are wonderful relaxing toys for all ages to play with anytime. Favorite Nickelodeon characters on their own 18-piece interconnected plaything. Stimulates brain as it helps exercise hand and increase finger dexterity. Creative, fun toy for year-round play.



- 10. University Games Game of Knowledge Ages 8 and up \$24.98 800-347-4818**
www.ugames.com

Skill-building trivia game that is a lot of fun. Players answer interesting questions. Questions divided into two age groups so players compete on their own level. Game is great way for the whole family to have a learning and play experiences together.



DR. TOY'S 100 BEST CHILDREN'S PRODUCTS FOR 2006

Selected by Stevanne Auerbach, Ph.D. (Dr. Toy)

| # | Company | Product Type Top 10 | Age | Price | Phone | Website |
|-----|----------------------|---|------------|----------|--------------|-------------------------|
| 1. | 20th Century Fox | Berry Fairy Tales DVD DV 6 | 3-5 | \$14.98 | 310-694-3120 | foxhome.com |
| 2. | Action Products | Jr Investigation Evidence Kit CP FP NO 6-12 | 6-12 | \$14.99 | 800-772-2846 | apii.com |
| 3. | ALEX | My Work Bench CO TY 7 | 3-12 | \$49.99 | 800-666-2539 | alextoys.com |
| 4. | b. dazzle | Swimming Champions ES NO PZ TR 4 | 4-12 | \$8.95 | 800-809-4242 | b-dazzle.com |
| 5. | Baby Hands | Sharing Signs ES SR DV | 10-36mos | \$19.95 | 888-688-8008 | mybabycantalk.com |
| 6. | Basic Fun | Giggler EG NO 3 | 5-12 | \$17.99 | 800-662-3380 | basicfun.com |
| 7. | Battat/Parent's Mag | Record-A-Voice Cellphone EG ES 3 | 18mos-3yrs | \$8.99 | 800-361-7899 | battatco.com |
| 8. | BinaryLabs | Totally Stumped! CG CR EG SW | 8-12 | \$19.99 | 800-701-5327 | binarylabs.com |
| 9. | Binney & Smith | Color Wonder Sprayer AC CP TY 7 | 5-12 | \$24.99 | 800-272-9652 | crayola.com |
| 10. | Blue Orange | CooCoo - Rocking Clown ES 5 | 3-12 | \$19.95 | 415-252-0372 | blueorangegames.com |
| 11. | Braincandy | My 5 Senses AE AT CD ML | 6 mos-4 | \$19.99 | 866-725-9070 | braincandykids.com |
| 12. | Briarpatch | I Spy Eagle Eye BG CG 5 | 5-12 | \$17.99 | 800-232-7427 | briarpatch.com |
| 13. | Captivation | Teaching Tank Kit AE BO CP EQ ES 2 | 5-12 | \$69.95 | 207-797-0949 | teachingtank.com |
| 14. | Carrera | X-Men Race Set HO TY 8 | 8-12 | \$79.99 | 609-409-8510 | carrera-toys.com |
| 15. | Center Enterprises | Sea Stampers AC CP ES HO ST 7 | 3-10 | \$12.95 | 800-542-2214 | centerenterprises.com |
| 16. | Chicco | Bilingual Talking Video Phone CP ES 3 | 1-3 | \$39.99 | 877-424-4226 | chiccousa.com |
| 17. | Corolle Dolls | Emma & Paul DO 4 | 2-5 | \$42.00 | 800-668-4846 | corolledolls.com |
| 18. | Creative Designs | Power Tools Workshop AE CP TY | 3-12 | \$49.99 | 888-864-7234 | cditoys.com |
| 19. | Creativity for Kids | Create Your Own Books AC BO CP 7 | 4-12 | \$15.99 | 800-642-2288 | creativityforkids.com |
| 20. | Discovery Toys | Discovery Chest AE ES FP TY 1 | 3-5 | \$24.99 | 800-984-5454 | discoverytoysinc.com |
| 21. | Dolly Adventures | Dolly Goes Supermarket BO DO ES 4 | 3-8 | \$19.95 | 866-363-6559 | dollyadventures.com |
| 22. | DoubleStar | Cogno: Codebreaker BG CP ES TY 5 | 7-12 | \$19.95 | 866-442-6466 | cogno.com |
| 23. | Duet/TippyToeToons | Princess--Bath to Bedtime CD ES FP | 3-7 | \$13.99 | 818-613-9507 | tippytoetoon.com |
| 24. | EasyToys | It's Robot CO CP | 6-12 | \$19.99 | 626-921-4148 | easytoysinc.com |
| 25. | EDC Publishing | See Inside Your Body AE BO ES 4 | 7-12 | \$12.99 | 800-745-4522 | edcpub.com |
| 26. | Educate Products | Hooked on Math AE BO CD ES SR 2 | 6-10 | \$249.99 | 888-605-5055 | hookedonphonics.com |
| 27. | Educational Insights | PlayFoam AC CP 7 | 3-12 | \$9.99 | 800-995-4436 | edin.com |
| 28. | Elenco | Snap Rover AE CP ES HO TY 2 | 8-12 | \$74.95 | 800-533-2441 | elenco.com |
| 29. | Engino.Net | Engino Construction CO ES 8 | 6-12 | \$39.99 | 718-278-0643 | engino.net |
| 30. | ETA/Cuisenaire | Game Cards & Rainbow Rumble ES 2 | 4-6 | \$39.95 | 800-445-5985 | etacuisenaire.com |
| 31. | Fanny's Play House | Nighty Night Doll DO 1 | 1-12 | \$24.00 | 516-822-3752 | fannysplayhouseinc.com |
| 32. | Fisher-Price Friends | I Can Play Piano ES ML 7 | 4-8 | \$79.99 | 800-432-5437 | fisher-price.com |
| 33. | Folkmanis | Dragon Duo Puppet CP FP PL PU TY 4 | 5-8 | \$48.00 | 800-654-8922 | folkmanis.com |
| 34. | Front Porch Classics | Word Spot BG 5 | 8-12 | \$39.95 | 800-526-0314 | frontporchclassics.com |
| 35. | Gamewright | Luck of the Draw AC BO CG CP HO 5 | 10-12 | \$19.99 | 800-638-7568 | gamewright.com |
| 36. | Giddy Up | Color-N-Carry II BO TR | 5-12 | \$6.99 | 734-302-4444 | giddyup.com |
| 37. | Goldberger Doll | EZ Dress Dolly Playset DO ES SR 1 | 18-36 mos | \$19.99 | 800-452-3655 | goldbergerdoll.com |
| 38. | Grt American Puzz | Chase & Race Game BG 5 | 3-5 | \$12.00 | 800-922-1194 | greatamericanpuzzle.com |
| 39. | HABA | Jigsaw Blocks Fantasy Land CO PZ 1 | 18 mos-5 | \$45.00 | 800-468-6873 | habausa.com |
| 40. | Hasbro/Milton Bradl | Twister Dance DVD GE DV 6 | 8-12 | \$29.99 | 888-836-7025 | hasbro.com |
| 41. | Hasbro | Easy Bake Classic Oven AE CP 1 | 8-12 | \$24.99 | 800-327-8264 | hasbro.com |
| 42. | High Reach Learnin | Food, Fitness & Fun AE CD ES OP 3 | 3-5 | \$89.99 | 800-729-9988 | highreach.com |
| 43. | Int'l Playthings | Baby Dino Rocker, Earlyears PL TY 8 | 1-3 | \$99.99 | 800-631-1272 | intplay.com |
| 44. | JAKKS Pacific | TeleStory BO EL 3 | 3-8 | \$34.99 | 800-545-2557 | jakkspacific.com |
| 45. | Jocapa Products | Birthday Gamesake AC CP ES HO NO | 7-12 | \$19.95 | 800-805-2632 | gamesake.com |
| 46. | Juno Baby | Way To Go, Juno AT ES ML VT DV 6 | 0-5 | \$20.00 | 415-460-6415 | junobaby.com |
| 47. | KAPLA | 200 Pc Barrel AE CO CP ES SR 1 | 3-12 | \$66.00 | 912-944-6296 | kaplatoy.com |
| 48. | KIDdesigns | Jam with Me Keyboard AE EL FP ML | 3-12 | \$39.99 | 888-867-8697 | kiddirect.com |
| 49. | Kids II | Baby Einstein Kaleidoscope ES ML TY 3 | mos-3 yr | \$12.99 | 800-230-8190 | kidsii.com |
| 50. | Kids Wealth USA | Kids Wealth Money Kit ES SR 4 | 4-12 | \$39.95 | 866-954-5437 | kidswealth.com |

KEY TO PRODUCT TYPE

AC = arts and crafts
AE = active
AT = audio tape
BG = board game
BO = book
CD = CD
CG = card game

CO = construction
CP = creative
CR = computer-related
DH = doll house
DO = doll
DV = DVD
EG = electronic game

EL = electronic product
EQ = equipment
ES = educational
FP = fantasy play
GE = game
HO = hobby
ML = musical

NO = novelty
OP = outdoor play
PL = plush
PU = puppet
SC = novelty
SR = socially responsible

ST = stamp
SW = software
TR = travel
TS = transportation
TY = toy
VG = video game
VT = video tape

DR. TOY'S 100 BEST CHILDREN'S PRODUCTS FOR 2006

Selected by Stevanne Auerbach, Ph.D. (Dr. Toy)

| # | Company | Product Type Top 10 | Age | Price | Phone | Website |
|------|--------------------|--|----------|----------|--------------|------------------------|
| 51. | Klutz | Foam Gliders AE GE 8 | 4-12 | \$9.95 | 650-857-0443 | klutz.com |
| 52. | K'NEX | Super Structures CO 1 | 8-12 | \$49.99 | 800-822-5639 | knex.com |
| 53. | Knowledge Adventu | Math Blaster EG ES SW | 6-12 | \$29.99 | 310-694-3144 | knowledgeadventure.com |
| 54. | Learning Journey | Animals of the World ES PZ SR 8 | 3-12 | \$12.99 | 877-839-3969 | thelearningjourney.com |
| 55. | Learning Resources | Illuma•Bot CO CR 1 | 5-8 | \$54.95 | 800-222-3909 | learningresources.com |
| 56. | LEGO Systems | Motion Power AE CO CP FP NO 3 | 6-12 | \$49.99 | 800-453-4652 | lego.com |
| 57. | Maple Landmark | Made By Me AC CO CP FP SR 7 | 5-8 | \$3.70 | 800-421-4223 | maplelandmark.com |
| 58. | Mega Brands | MagnaCase AE CO CP ES TR 1 | 6-12 | \$49.99 | 800-465-6342 | megabrandsin.com |
| 59. | MGA | Miuchiz EG 3 | 6-12 | \$29.99 | 800-222-4685 | mgae.com |
| 60. | Mic-O-Mic | LonPos 303 ES GE PZ TR 5 | 8-12 | \$24.99 | 877-642-6642 | micamericas.com |
| 61. | MindWing Concepts | The Story Braid DO ES PL PU SR | 2-8 | \$139.95 | 888-228-9746 | mindwingconcepts.com |
| 62. | Moodoo Productions | Ultimate Dinosaur Drawing AC CP ES | 5-12 | \$19.99 | 626-296-6956 | drawingpower.org |
| 63. | Morning Star | Jabber Jot BG CP ES 5 | 9-12 | \$29.99 | 888-304-4263 | morningstargames.com |
| 64. | Norman & Globus | Energy BO CP ES SR TY 2 | 8-12 | \$19.95 | 510-222-2638 | sciencewiz.com |
| 65. | Ohio Art | Doodle Doug AC CP TY 7 | 4-12 | \$14.99 | 800-641-6226 | world-of-toys.com |
| 66. | Only Hearts Club | Only Hearts Club Series BO 2 | 3-12 | \$4.00 | 805-384-4800 | onlyheartclub.com |
| 67. | Out of the Box | Wallamoppi BG CG 5 | 7-12 | \$19.99 | 800-540-2304 | otb-games.com |
| 68. | Patch Products | BubbleBrain BG CP ES | 10-12 | \$29.99 | 800-524-4263 | patchproducts.com |
| 69. | Path Math & Readin | Word Builders AE CG ES TR TY 2 | 5-12 | \$12.00 | 650-348-6284 | |
| 70. | Phunzone | Quadro AE CO CP OP SR 8 | 1-8 | \$99.99 | 800-477-6434 | info@phunzone.com |
| 71. | PlaSmart | Crazy Racer TS | 6-12 | \$29.99 | 877-289-0730 | plasmacar.com |
| 72. | Plastic Play | i-gami AC CO CP ES 7 | 8-12 | \$20.00 | 905-728-0063 | i-gami.com |
| 73. | Playhut | Big Red Fire Engine AE FP TR TY 1 | 3-5 | \$19.99 | 888-752-9488 | playhut.com |
| 74. | Playmobil | My Take-Along Farm CP DH FP TR TY 4-12 | | \$29.99 | 800-752-9662 | playmobil.com |
| 75. | Preschool Prep Co | Meet the Colors ES TR VT DV 6 | 9 mos-4 | \$14.95 | 866-451-5600 | preschoolprepc.com |
| 76. | Publications Intl | Story Reader Video Plus BO EG ES 6 | 3-8 | \$34.99 | 800-454-9006 | storyreader.com |
| 77. | Radica | Golden Tee Golf EG TY 3 | 8-12 | \$39.99 | 800-854-9551 | radicagames.com |
| 78. | Radio Flyer | Beginner's Balancing Bike AE FP OP | 83-6 | \$99.99 | 800-621-7613 | radioflyer.com |
| 79. | Rock 'N Learn | Money & Making Change ES ML DV | 66-12 | \$19.99 | 800-348-8445 | rocknlearn.com |
| 80. | Scholastic | I Spy Mystery ES SW VG 3 | 6-10 | \$19.99 | 888-314-1555 | scholastic.com |
| 81. | Sing 2 School | Phonics Hip-Hop CD ML SR TR 2 | 3-5 | \$13.99 | 718-637-6447 | sing2school.com |
| 82. | Skuut | Skuut AE OP TS 8 | 2-5 | \$79.99 | 877-467-5888 | skuut.com |
| 83. | SmartLab Toys | Science & Nature Challenge BO EG 2 | 8-12 | \$19.99 | 866-319-5900 | smartlabtoys.com |
| 84. | Smithsonian Folkwa | You Are My Little Bird CD 6 | 6 mos-8 | \$11.98 | 888-365-5929 | folkways.si.edu |
| 85. | Soaring Star | Aquaphonic Adventure ES ML DV 6 | 3-5 | \$15.95 | 800-477-7811 | pocketsnails.com |
| 86. | Spin Master | Moon Sand CP 7 | 4-12 | \$19.99 | 800-622-8339 | spinmaster.com |
| 87. | Start Smarter | Nutrition & Dial 911 ES SR DV 4 | 2-8 | \$19.99 | 800-650-2441 | startsmarter. |
| 88. | Taggies | Taggie Fun Shapes/Toss AE OP PL 8 | 0-3 | \$12.95 | 877-482-4443 | taggies.com |
| 89. | Talikor | Math Animals BG ES 2 | 5-12 | \$22.00 | 800-433-4263 | talikor.com |
| 90. | Tangle Toys | Dora Explorer & Friends CP NO PZ 4 | 3-12 | \$4.99 | 888-829-3808 | tangletoys.com |
| 91. | Techno Source | My First TV Fun & Games EG ES 3 | 3-5 | \$12.99 | 212-725-4500 | technosourcehk.com |
| 92. | Think Fun | Zingo! Heroes ES | 4-8 | \$16.99 | 800-468-1864 | thinkfun.com |
| 93. | Time Out Spots | Time Out Spot SR 4 | 18 mos-7 | \$22.00 | 714-856-6889 | timeoutspots.com |
| 94. | ToyBox Innovations | Read-Along Collections CD ES TR | 4-9 | \$14.99 | 905-307-7735 | toyboxinnovations.com |
| 95. | Twin Sisters | Workbook & Music CD BO CD ES 6 | 7-12 | \$12.99 | 800-248-8946 | twinsisters.com |
| 96. | University Games | Game of Knowledge BG 5 | 10-12 | \$24.98 | 800-347-4818 | ugames.com |
| 97. | VTech | Infant Development System EG ES TY | 1-2 | \$39.99 | 800-521-2010 | vtechkids.com |
| 98. | Wai Lana Yoga | Little Yogis Fun Songs BO CD 8 | 3-12 | \$18.95 | 800-228-5145 | wailana.com |
| 99. | Walter Foster | Watch Me Draw Series AC BO CP ES | 4-6 | \$4.95 | 800-426-0099 | walterfoster.com |
| 100. | YourCreativeChild | Creative Movement CP FP SR DV 6 | 3-6 | \$24.95 | 317-921-0155 | yourcreativechild.com |

Rank Category of Top Ten

1 – 10 Best Toys

2 – 10 Best Educational Products

3 – 10 Best Software/CD-ROM/High-Tech Products

4 – 10 Best Socially Responsible Products

5 – 10 Best Games

6 – 10 Best Audio/Video Tape/CDs

7 – 10 Best Creative Products

8 – 10 Best Active Products



Dr. Toy's Ten Tips on Use of Smart Play/Smart Toys for Learning and Fun

After school, weekends, and vacation time provide balance and well-being so important for children. Parents are encouraged to carefully select products for playtime. Find time to play games, solve puzzles, do creative and constructive projects, and read. Planning positive, enjoyable, informal activities make a critical difference in school success and provide more balance and less stress.

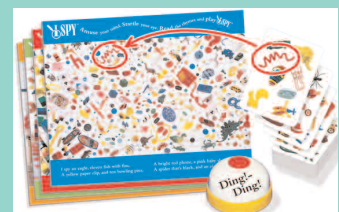
1. Be sure your child's toys, games, and other playthings are easily accessible and stored in easy to locate boxes and shelves.
2. Limit TV until creative projects have been enjoyed, homework and chores have been completed, and some time has been spent outdoors.
3. Active play is important to children who have been in school all day. Active play offers exercise and opportunities to release stress.
4. Schedule activities your child can look forward to, particularly ones that offer accomplishment - like swimming, music lessons, or other creative pursuits.
5. Set aside social time with other children outside of school. Schedule time for informal get-togethers to help children with inter-personal skills.
6. Don't forget to read to your child. Make "read-aloud" a family daily activity.
7. Encourage imaginative play with puppets and other creative objects.
8. Guide your child toward hobbies like creative pursuits and academic projects, especially those in biology, geography, math, nature, and science.
9. Help your child become more independent by learning how to take care of personal needs like homework and personal grooming.
10. Manage playtime for a balanced and varied play experiences of physical activity, creativity, and educational opportunities.

Children need plenty of time to nurture their creative experiences, to unwind from pressures, to do homework, and to be able to focus attention on what needs to be accomplished. This requires juggling, patience, and planning as children learn how to effectively manage their time. Learning to balance activities and scheduling is important preparation for school, work, and the lifetime that lies ahead.



Selected "Smart Toys" for Skill-Building

- **Active Play Tangle Toys**
Tangle Jr. \$4.99 (Ages 3 and up) 888-829-3808
www.tangletoys.com
- **Communication Skills**
University Games Game of Knowledge \$24.98 (Ages 8 and up) 800-347-4818
www.ugames.com
- **Construction Play KAPLA**
Toys 200 Piece Barrel (Ages 3 and up.) \$66.00 (912) 944 6296
www.kaplatoy.com
- **Creativity Educational**
Insights PlayFoam (Ages 3 and up) \$9.99 www.edin.com
- **Dramatic Play Folkmanis**
Dragon Duo Puppet (Ages 5 and up) \$48.00 800-654-8922
www.folkmanis.com
- **Learning Skills Learning**
Resources Gears! Gears! Gears!® Illuma?Bot™ (Ages 5 and up) \$54.95
www.learningresources.com
- **Logical Thinking Briarpatch**
I Spy Eagle Eye (Ages 5 and up) \$17.99. 800-232-7427
www.briarpatch.com
- **Puzzles/Logical Thinking**
b.dazzle Swimming Champions Scramble Squares® (Ages 4 and up) \$8.95 800-809-4242
www.b-dazzle.com
- **Technological Play MGA**
Entertainment Miuchiz (Ages 6 and up) \$29.99 800-222-4685
www.mgae.com
- **Thematic Play Mega Brands**
MagnaCase (Ages 6 and up) \$49.99 800-465-6342
gabrandinc.com



SMART TOYS FOR SMART PLAY

SMART TOYS FOR SMART PLAY

Dr. Toy's "100 Best Children's Products for 2006" Award Report –Smart Toys for Back to School & After-School and Holiday Gifts

Toys, Videos, Audio CDs, DVDs, Games, Books, Socially Responsible, High Tech, Active and Educational Products and new, quality, developmentally appropriate items.



"Dr. Toy's 100 Best Children's Products" 2006 was developed by noted child development authority, Stevanne Auerbach, Ph.D. (a.k.a. Dr. Toy) as a service to consumers who desire to purchase safe, affordable, educationally oriented, stimulating toys and products for children.

"As a childhood specialist for over 35 years," says Dr. Toy, Director of the Institute for Childhood Resources, founded in San Francisco in 1975, "I have seen the continuous, essential need for more year-round resources for consumers to identify and choose the most appropriate, safe and engaging learning and developmental products for all children."

The report, "Dr. Toy's 100 Best Children's Products for 2006", is being released according to Dr. Toy to "encourage parents and teachers to focus on the value of play as essential to the learning process."

She adds, "Smart play products selected from 100 companies across the U.S.A., Canada and other countries provide children with exciting new learning tools to help them do better in school, and also provide more constructive activities after school."

Dr. Auerbach believes "parents and grandparents need help to get a head start locating new, diversified products that children will enjoy while increasing skills, enhance instruction and expand creativity." The products balanced among large and small companies, range from low to high tech for "hours of constructive, educational, and stimulating fun."

"Children learn best through play," says Dr. Auerbach, "and these smart toys and products encourage children to maximize their potentials."

"Back-to-school is a good time to 'take stock' and do an inventory of what your child is playing with, what is not used and what they need next in their development," adds Dr. Toy. "Our Guide offers excellent ideas for choosing new products for after school play and the holidays ahead."

"Dr. Toy's 100 Best Products" were carefully chosen from among thousands reviewed at toy fairs, catalogs, and through any other sources, and by using the extensive criteria she has developed over many years.

Among criteria used are: safety, age-appropriateness, design, durability, lasting play value, cultural and ethnic diversity, good transition from home to school, educational value, learning skills, creativity, improvement in the understanding of the community and the world, good value for price, and, naturally, fun.

Examples of the aspects of smart play of these outstanding smart toys and products and the companies recognized by these special awards include: Active Play- Quadro (Phunzone), Balancing Bike (Radio Flyer). Creativity/Music & Art- Play Foam (Educational

Insights), You Are My Little Bird (Smithsonian Folkways), Moon Sand (Spin Master), My Work Bench (Alex). Puzzles & Logical Thinking Games- Swimming Champions Scramble Squares® Puzzle (b.dazzle); I Spy Eagle Eye (Briarpatch), Game of Knowledge (University Games), Wallamoppi (Out of the Box), Luck of the Draw (Gamewright), LonPos 303 (Mic-O-Mic Americas), Codebreaker (Double Star). Learning/Math & Reading Readiness- Science Wiz (Norman & Globus), RC Snap Rover (Elenco), Hooked on Math (Educate), Money & Making Change (Rock 'N Learn). Language & Mental Development-See Inside Your Body (EDC Publishing), Curiosity Kits Evidence Kit (Action Products), Bubble Brain (Patch Products). Construction Play- Kapla Blocks (Kapla), Gears! Gears! Gears! (Learning Resources), Magna Case (Mega Brands), Jigsaw Blocks (HABA USA). Dexterity & Technology- Miuchiz (MGA Entertainment), Giggulator (Basic Fun), Tangle Jr. (Tangle Toys), Motion Power (Lego Systems). Social & Dramatic Play- Big Red Fire Engine (Playhut), Double Dragon Duo Puppet (Folkmanis), Discovery Chest (Discovery Toys), Nighty Night Doll (Fanny's Playhouse) and others.

Winning products are manufactured by new, small and large companies from around the world including: Alex, b.dazzle, Baby Einstein, Battat/Parents Magazine, Basic Fun, Binney & Smith, Blue Orange Games, Briarpatch, Corolle Dolls, Discovery Toys, Educational Insights, Elenco Electronics, Fanny's Playhouse, Fisher-Price, Folkmanis, Front Porch Classics, Gamewright, Goldberger Dolls, HABA USA, Hasbro, International Playthings, Jakks Pacific, Kapla Toys, Klutz, K'NEX, Learning Resources, LEGO Systems, Mega Brands, Maple Landmark, MGA Entertainment, Mic-O-Mic Americas, MGA Entertainment, Ohio Art, Out of the Box, Playhut, Playmobil, Radio Flyer, Scholastic, Smithsonian Folkways Records, Spinmaster, Tangle Toys, University Games, VTech, Walter Foster Publishing and others. See www.drtoy.com for details.



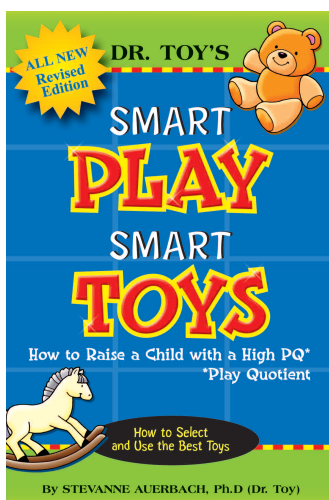
Dr. Auerbach is the only independent Ph.D. evaluating toys and children's products with extensive training, background, and over 35 years of experience evaluating, writing and speaking about toys and children's products.



KAPLA
Blocks

SMART PLAY SMART TOY

Books to Guide Search For The Right Toy



"Many people think play is trivial, but it isn't," said Dr. Toy. "Play is vital for the developing mind because it allows children to extend their imagination, resourcefulness, social interaction, problem-solving skills and resilience."

The book helps parents navigate the thousands of toy and play options available, offers tips on how to evaluate toy safety, and provides 160 activities that enhance PQ. In addition, it identifies gender-specific and age-appropriate toys, important craft sup ing to Jim Whitney, President of Educational Insights, "Effective play produces a well-rounded child, ready to take on further learning challenges. We are very pleased to be involved in spreading the very popular and practical advice for which Dr. Toy is so well known."

For copies of "Smart Play/Smart Toys" contact:
www.EducationalInsights.com or call 800 995 4436 or see
www.TheArk.com to order autographed copies also order books /;
www.toys4minds.com or www.barnesandnoble.com.



The book is now available in Chinese, German, Korean, Spanish and Thai. For more information, see www.drtoy.com



See www.EducationalInsights.com For more information or to order books, call 800-995-4436

Dr. Toy provides practical ideas to enhance play-time, for all children from baby to older children.

- Dr. Stevanne Auerbach really understands children, play and



toys. This book is a wonderful resource for parents, teachers and everyone who works and plays with children...

Michael B. Rothenberg, M.D.
 • Auerbach applies her scientific, but not preachy expertise to that challenge. She relies as much on common sense and parenting insight as on scholarly

research to suggest toys ranging from brooms and plastic cups to books and watercolors to amuse,

stimulate, and activate children.
 Kathryn Carpenter Booklist, American Library Association

• **Dr. Toy's Smart Play Smart Toys** is a great guide for anyone searching for the right toy for creative play, building developmental skills or for just plain fun. It's easy to use and well organized. Invaluable!
 Alice Bergman West Side Kids (ASTRA member), N.Y. C.



"Toys+Play = Smart Kids"