

Dr. Toy's Vacation Gift Guide



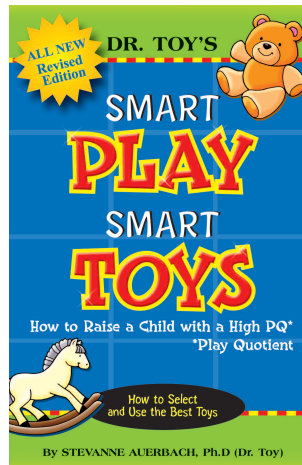
Dr. Toy's Best Vacation Children's Products for 2006



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 a 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. Outer Banks Lighthouses Scramble Squares® Age 6 and up \$8.95

Learn about lighthouses with 9 piece, 4"x4" brainteaser puzzles, easy to play, but hard to solve. Wide range of choices (100 designs, Flyfishing, Covered Bridges others depending on interests). Develop critical thinking skills, perseverance and more when challenged to solve puzzle. Reusable case. b. dazzle, www.b-dazzle.com, 800- 809-4242



2. Sudoku Age 7 and up \$19.99 This skill building game challenges as simple to play, but difficult to master. Develop logic and reasoning. Includes 3-D game board grid, number tiles, tile storage compartment with booklet featuring 50 different puzzles.

Briarpatch

www.briarpatch.com 800-232-7427



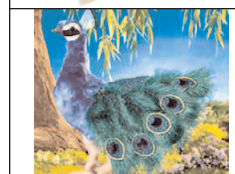
3. Let's Pretend Grill-and-Go Camp Stove Age 3 -12 \$29.99

Dramatic role playing make-believe barbeque. Cooking develops imagination, language and fosters creativity. Features boiling, sizzling sound effects, grill and burner glow red. Fun for child while adults cook. Equipment converts to carrying case. Two "AA" batteries required. Educational Insights, www.educationalinsights.com 800-995-4436



4. Peacock Puppet Age 3 -7 \$44 Amazing 18" peacock puppet has fully open, multi-colored, textured "feather" display, multiple hand operations adds play value as child communicates, creates dramas, narrates stories and learns to work head/neck, legs, or "feathers." Full-hand design splays "feathers" for easy body and head movement.

Folkmanis www.folkmanis.com 800-654-8922



5. KAPLA Barrel \$66 Age 3-12 Excellent creative construction toy made of high-quality wood. Young builders delight at endless possibilities of 200 pine pieces. Blocks are easy for small hands to manipulate. Supports confidence, concentration, problem solving, measure, design, organize, create, imagine, social skills plus eye hand and physical coordination. KAPLA Toys, www.kaplatoy.com 912-944-6296



6. Smart Splash® Memory Match Clams™ Age 2 -12 \$15.95 This skill building water toy challenges child to build memory skills and improve fine motor skills while playing in the bathtub, pool or pond. Collection of six colorful clams open to vibrant fish, crabs and starfish. Each piece sturdy, mold-resistant plastic with reusable mesh storage bag.

Learning Resources, www.learningresources.com 800-222-3909



7. Tiny'n Tuff® Off-Road Set™ Age 1 -5 \$14.99 First vehicle set empowers, stimulates preschooler to build and create with imagination. Easy-to-build, three-piece vehicles with bigger wheels mix and match for easy manipulation. Transformable obstacle track comes with two rock shaped, two log shaped and two maxi blocks. Endless combinations for open-ended learning and play. Mega Bloks, www.megabloks.com 800-465-6342



8. Big Fish Lil' Fish Age 4 -12 \$4.99 Enjoy playing fast-paced card game and improve thinking skills. Take turns using big fish to eat little fish. Beware the puffer fish can't be eaten or wind up with a whole pile of fish cards. The first player without cards wins the game. Easy to learn, fun to play set is complete with 60 brightly colored cards in travel size box.

MGA Entertainment, www.mgae.com 800-222-4685



9. Tangle Jr. Age 3 and up \$1.99 Tangles are perfect as a relaxing toy for children (and adults) to play on trips or anytime. Slips through your fingers, knots up in your hand, and feel tensions release. Play to quiet the brain, achieve tranquility and relax. An original infinite sculpture Tangle is 20 interconnected 90 degree segments.

Tangle Toys, www.tangletoys.com 888-829-3808



10. Magic Cauldron Age 5-8 \$14.98 Math is magical with game of bubbling cauldrons and wacky ingredients like worms. Game is easy to learn and fun to play as ingredient card is selected, look at sum on the back, then guess solution by matching addition or subtraction card. What equals 10? Rub back of card to see if answer is correct. Children enjoy solving math as they laugh and cook. Be first to fill up cauldron and win.

University Games, www.ugames.com 800-347-4818



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

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

#	Company	Product Type	Age	Price	Phone	Website
1.	ALEX	Games To Go BG TR	5-8	\$29.99	800-666-2539	alextoys.com
2.	ALEX	Magic Tracer AC NO TR	5-8	\$11.99	800-666-2539	alextoys.com
3.	Athletic Baby	Athletic Baby Basketball AE DV	3-36m	\$16.99	972-781-6806	athleticbaby.com
4.	b. dazzle	Covered Bridges Scramble Square ES NO PZ	6-12	\$8.95	800-809-4242	b-dazzle.com
5.	b. dazzle	Fly Fishing Scramble Square ES NO PZ TR	6-12	\$8.95	800-809-4242	b-dazzle.com
6.	b. dazzle	Outer Banks Lighthouses Square ES NO PZ TR	6-12	\$8.95	800-809-4242	b-dazzle.com
7.	b. dazzle	San Antonio Scramble Square ES NO PZ TR	6-12	\$8.95	800-809-4242	b-dazzle.com
8.	Babalu	FeltTales CP ES TR	3-5	\$16.95	805-963-8180	
9.	Blue Orange	CooCoo the Rocking Clown CO	3-12	\$19.95	415-252-0372	blueorangegames.com
10.	Blue Orange	Ringgz BG	8-12	\$29.95	415-252-0372	blueorangegames.com
11.	Blue Orange	Speedy Eddy BG	5-12	\$24.95	415-252-0372	blueorangegames.com
12.	Breyer/Reeves Intl	Horse Fun Party Pack AC CP	6-12	\$50.00	973-633-5090	breyerhorses.com
13.	Briarpatch	Sudoku ES TR TS	7-12	\$19.99	800-232-7427	briarpatch.com
14.	Cadaco	Buzztime Head-on Trivia Challenge EG	10-12	\$19.99	800-621-5426	cadaco.com
15.	Carson Dellosa	Butterflies-Life Cycles Dominoes BG ES PZ SC	5-12	\$9.99	800-274-1150	carsondellosa.com
16.	Carson Dellosa	Summer Bridge Activities Books BO ES TR TS	3-5	\$12.95	800-274-1150	carsondellosa.com
17.	Center Enterprises	Ready 2 Learn Giant Stampers AC CP ES HO	3-10	\$44.95	800-542-2214	centerenterprises.com
18.	Chicco	Chicco 3D Playground AE CP ES	3-36m	\$59.99	877-424-4226	chiccousa.com
19.	Chronicle Books	Camp Kit AE BO TR TY	6-12	\$15.95	800-722-6657	chroniclekids.com
20.	Chronicle Books	Doodles BO	3-12	\$18.95	800-722-6657	chroniclekids.com
21.	Chronicle Books	Scribbles BO	3-12	\$18.95	800-722-6657	chroniclekids.com
22.	Cranium	Hoppity Winks GE TR	6-12	\$9.95	877-272-6486	cranium.com
23.	Cranium	Super Jacks GE TR	6-12	\$9.95	877-272-6486	cranium.com
24.	Cranium	WonderWorks Picture Studio CP TR	6-12	\$9.99	877-272-6486	cranium.com
25.	Cranium	WonderWorks Talking Picture Book BO CP TR	6-12	\$19.99	877-272-6486	cranium.com
26.	Discovery Toys	Stargo BG ES OP	6-12	\$18.99	800-984-5454	discoverytoysinc.com
27.	Dolly Adventures	Dolly Goes to the Beach BO ES FP	3-8	\$21.95	866-363-6559	dollyadventures.com
28.	Educational Insights	Grill-and-Go Camp Stove CP FP	6-12	\$29.99	800-995-4436	educationalinsights.com
29.	Educational Insights	Kanoodle PZ	6-12	\$9.99	800-995-4436	educationalinsights.com
30.	Educational Insights	Magic Show! CP HO	6-12	\$19.99	800-995-4436	educationalinsights.com
31.	Educational Insights	PlayFoam AC CP	6-12	\$9.99	800-995-4436	educationalinsights.com
32.	Educational Insights	Space Faces BG ES	4-12	\$29.99	800-995-4436	educationalinsights.com
33.	Educational Insights	Trail Mate Adventure Tool AE CP HO SC	7-12	\$7.99	800-995-4436	educationalinsights.com
34.	Elope	Double Cone Princess Pink AE CP ES NO PL	3-10	\$16.99	800-553-5673	elope.com
35.	Family Pastimes	Berries, Bugs & Bullfrogs #35 BG	4-7	\$8.00	888-267-4414	familypastimes.com
36.	Folkmanis	Elephant Puppet PL PU TR	3-5	\$44.00	800-654-8922	folkmanis.com
37.	Folkmanis	Harbor Seal Puppet CP PL PU TR	3-12	\$30.00	800-654-8922	folkmanis.com
38.	Folkmanis	Peacock Puppet PL PU TR	3-7	\$44.00	800-654-8922	folkmanis.com
39.	Fundex Games	Bubba PT	5-12	\$14.99	800-486-9787	fundexgames.com
40.	Fundex Games	Sonic Search PT	5-12	\$14.95	800-486-9787	fundexgames.com
41.	Funrise Toys	Pog BG HO	5-12	\$9.99	800-882-3808	funrise.com
42.	Gamewright	Combo King GE TY	8-12	\$14.99	800-638-7568	gamewright.com
43.	Gamewright	Feed the Kitty GE TY	4-12	\$11.99	800-638-7568	gamewright.com
44.	Gamewright	Original Little Hands GE TY	3-12	\$3.99	800-638-7568	gamewright.com
45.	Gamewright	Top Speed GE TY	8-12	\$5.99	800-638-7568	gamewright.com
46.	Hooked on Phonics	Hooked on Colors TR TS DV	3-5	\$14.99	888-605-5055	hookedonphonics.com
47.	Hooked on Phonics	Hooked on Handwriting BO CM ES	4-6	\$64.99	888-605-5055	hookedonphonics.com
48.	Hooked on Phonics	Hooked on Numbers TR TS DV	3-5	\$14.99	888-605-5055	hookedonphonics.com
49.	Hooked on Phonics	Hooked on Shapes TR TS DV	3-5	\$14.99	888-605-5055	hookedonphonics.com
50.	Int'l Playthings	Filo by Quercetti & Co. SpA ES TR	4-12	\$18.99	800-631-1272	intplay.com
51.	Int'l Playthings	Little Chubbies Assortment TR TS	1-3	\$1.39	800-631-1272	intplay.com

Key to Product Type:

AC = Arts and Crafts	CD = CD	DH = Doll House	FP = Fantasy Play	OP = Outdoor Play	SR = Social Responsible
AE = Active	CG = Card Game	DO = Doll	GE = Game	OT = Other	SW = Software
AT = Audiotape	CM = CD-Rom	DV = DVD	HO = Hobby	PL = Plush	TR = Travel
BG = Board Game	CO = Construction	EG = Electronic Game	ML = Musical	PU = Puppet	TY = Toy
BO = Book	CP = Creative	ES = Educational	NO = Novelty	PZ = Puzzle	VT = Video Tape

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

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

#	Company	Product Type	Age	Price	Phone	Website
52.	Int'l Playthings	Major League Baseball Trivia CG TR	8-12	\$7.99	800-631-1272	intplay.com
53.	Int'l Playthings	Taggies Big Soft Blocksby Earlyyears® PL TR	0-3m	\$34.99	800-631-1272	intplay.com
54.	Kids II	Big Catch! Fishing Net AE CP PT TR	1-3	\$4.99	800-230-8190	kidsii.com
55.	Kids II	Big Smiles! Activity Camera CP TR	6-36m	\$5.99	800-230-8190	kidsii.com
56.	Kids II	Take Along Caterpillar ES PL TR	3-36m	\$14.99	800-230-8190	kidsii.com
57.	Kuleana	Hawaiian Lei Making Kit AC CP ES NO TR	5-12	\$14.99	866-367-4852	beahulagirl.com
58.	Kuleana	Princess Leilani CP DO ES NO TR	4-12	\$24.99	866-367-4852	beahulagirl.com
59.	la manzana roja	Mom, Dad & Me ES DV	2-10	\$18.99	817-793-7939	Lamanzanaroja.com
60.	Learning Horizons	ABC Wipe Off Mat AP ES	3-6	\$3.95	800-532-8876	learninghorizons.com
61.	Learning Horizons	Preschool Coloring & Activity AP BO	3-5	\$4.99	800-532-8876	learninghorizons.com
62.	Learning Horizons	Healthy Foods Wipe Off Mat AP ES	3-6	\$3.95	800-532-8876	learninghorizons.com
63.	Learning Horizons	Leap Frog Addition Wipe Off Mat AP ES	3-6	\$3.95	800-532-8876	learninghorizons.com
64.	Learning Horizons	Leap Frog Money Mat AP ES	3-6	\$3.95	800-532-8876	learninghorizons.com
65.	Learning Horizons	Kindergarten Coloring & Activity AP BO	5-6	\$4.99	800-532-8876	learninghorizons.com
66.	Learning Resources	Go to Press A Grammar Game BG	7-12	\$21.95	800-222-3909	learningresources.com
67.	Learning Resources	Memory Match Clams ES PT TR	2-12	\$15.95	800-222-3909	learningresources.com
68.	Learning Resources	Pretend & Play Snack Shop CP FP	3-12	\$32.95	800-222-3909	learningresources.com
69.	Learning Resources	World Treasure Hunt Mat AE ES TR	4-12	\$36.95	800-222-3909	learningresources.com
70.	LEGO Systems	Grand Soccer Stadium AE CO CP NO TR	7-12	\$49.99	800-453-4652	lego.com
71.	Made By Hands	Make-Your-Own Masterpieces AC CP ES TR	4-12	\$18.99	800-839-7369	made-by-hands.com
72.	Marcie And Me	Fun with Marcie and Me DV	1-4	\$14.99	781-329-0778	marcieandme.com
73.	Mega Bloks	Magnetix Magnetic Building Set CO CP ES TR	6-12	\$9.99	800-465-6342	megabloks.com
74.	Mega Bloks	Small Bag of Maxi Blocks AE CO CP ES TR	1-5	\$7.99	800-465-6342	megabloks.com
75.	Mega Bloks	Tiny'n Tuff Off-Road Set AE CO CP ES TS	1-5	\$14.99	800-465-6342	megabloks.com
76.	MGA	Big Fish Lil' Fish CP ES HO TR	4-12	\$4.99	800-222-4685	mgae.com
77.	Mindtwister USA	Pentago BG	6-12	\$19.95	866-604-9220	pentago.com
78.	MindWing Concepts	SGM Fun Pack CP ES	5-12	\$29.95	888-228-9746	mindwingconcepts.com
79.	Out of the Box	Squint Jr. BG TR	6-12	\$16.99	800-540-2304	otb-games.com
80.	Paramount Home Ent.	The Chipmunk Adventure DV	2-11	\$14.99	818-823-6403	paramount.com
81.	Paramount Home Ent.	The Princess Promenade DV	3-6	\$16.99	818-823-6403	paramount.com
82.	PlaSmart	Swinging Monkeys GE	3-5	\$19.99	877-289-0730	plasmacar.com
83.	PlaSmart	World Puzzle Map PZ	3-5	\$69.99	877-289-0730	plasmacar.com
84.	Play Visions	Stunt Copter AE	6-12	\$12.99	800-678-8697	playvisions.com
85.	Publications Intl	My First Story Reader BO ES SW TR TY	6m-3	\$19.99	800-595-8484	storyreader.com
86.	Publications Intl	Travel Time Activity Set BO ES TR	3-6	\$14.99	800-595-8484	pilbookscom
87.	Questar	Toy Castle: Beautiful Ballerina DV	3-5	\$14.99	800-544-8422	Bratz.com
88.	RADGames	Super Add-Ons Monopoly AE BG ES	8-12	\$24.95	603-924-6446	radgames.com
89.	RandomLine	SQUIGGLE on-the-go ES TR	3-5	\$6.95	973-889-8964	randomline.com
90.	Rock 'N Learn	Alphabet Exercise ES VT DV	3-5	\$19.99	800-348-8445	rocknlearn.com
91.	Scholastic	Animal Genius EG ES SW TR TS	5-7	\$24.99	800-724-4718	scholastic.com
92.	Scribble Mats!	Scribble Books! AC BO CP ES NO	3-12	\$5.00	877-543-3248	scribblemats.com
93.	Think Fun	Sudoku 5x5 BG ES PZ TR	8-12	\$9.99	800-468-1864	thinkfun.com
94.	Universal Music	Bratz Genie Magic CD CD	6-12	\$15.00	310-865-7812	universalmusic.com
95.	University Games	Do You Sudoku? CG TR	6-12	\$5.98	800-347-4818	ugames.com
96.	University Games	Magic Cauldron ES	5-8	\$14.98	800-347-4818	ugames.com
97.	VTech	Write & Learn Letter Pad EG ES SW	3-12	\$14.99	800-521-2010	vtechkids.com
98.	Walter Foster	100 Feet of Fun BO CP HO	6-12	\$12.95	800-426-0099	walterfoster.com
99.	Walter Foster	Fun with Manga BO CP HO	8-12	\$14.95	800-426-0099	walterfoster.com
100.	WeeCreation	Hip2Hop Hopscotch Kit AE ES TR DV	5-11	\$11.99	866-373-1598	weecreation.com

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Dr. Toy's Tips For Summer Time Fun

Dr. Toy's Tips are guidelines for wholesome summer vacation playtime to make the time more balanced and fun for your child:

1. Locate a good variety of challenging products appropriate for age and interests.
2. Arrange toys and playthings so they are easy to access and easy to store away.
3. Create a variety of interesting and enjoyable activities.
4. Be sure to create a good mix of indoor and outdoor play.
5. Remind children that they should drink plenty of water during the summer time to avoid dehydration.
6. Children need rest, healthy snacks, safety awareness, instruction, and safe play.
7. Children should play with age appropriate products and proper supervision to avoid accidents.
8. Learning to prepare a simple recipe is practical fun for children including making sandwiches, scrambled eggs, or simple, healthy snacks.
9. Encourage children to learn how to make something useful like a craft project, or to learn to assemble a puzzle.
10. Express admiration for each accomplishment. Children thrive when their talents are recognized and nurtured.
11. Gather an assortment of creative projects and various materials in a storage box along with easy-to-follow directions. Arrange an assortment of paper, glue, safety scissors, and magazines to easily cut pictures for collage and scrapbooks in an accessible box. Take time to do creative and fun projects with your child.
12. Projects that involve planting, making, or learning things have extra value.

Plenty of great play ideas and products are available for all ages, interests, and skills to make Summertime Special, Safe and Satisfying.

Selected "Smart Toys" for Vacation Fun & Learning

Active - Smart Splash® Memory Match Clams™ (Age 2- 12, \$15.95) Learning Resources 800-222-3909 www.learningresources.com

Construction Play - Tiny'n Tuff® Off-Road Set™ Age 1 -5 \$14.99 Mega Bloks 800-465-6342 www.megabloks.com

Dexterity - Tangle Jr. Age 3 and up \$1.99 Tangle Toys 888-829-3808 www.tangletoys.com

Dramatic Play - Let's Pretend Grill-and-Go Camp Stove Age 3 - 12 \$29.99 Educational Insights 800-995-4436 www.educationalinsights.com

Language Development - Peacock Puppet Age 3 -7 \$44 Folkmanis 800-654-8922 www.folkmanis.com

Logical Thinking - Scramble Squares Puzzles, B. Dazzle (Ages 3 and up \$8.95) 800-809-42412 [b-dazzle](http://b-dazzle.com)

Math Skills - Magic Cauldron Age 5-8 \$14.98 University Games 800-347-4818 www.ugames.com

Mental Skills - Big Fish Lil' Fish Age 4 -12 \$4.99 MGA Entertainment 800-222-4685 www.mgae.com

Physical Dexterity - KAPLA Barrel \$66 Age 3-12 KAPLA Toys 912-944-6296 www.kaplatoy.com

Strategy/Logic Development - Sudoku Age 7 and up \$19.99 Briarpatch 800-232-7427 www.briarpatch.com



Dr. Toy's Best Children's Vacation Products Program 2006

Report of the Best Products for Summertime Fun and Learning



This Program was created by noted child development authority, Stevanne Auerbach, Ph.D. (a.k.a. Dr. Toy) to guide the purchase of safe, affordable, educationally oriented, and stimulating toys and products." As a childhood specialist," says Dr. Toy, Director, The Institute for Childhood Resources, founded in San Francisco in 1975, "I have seen the need for year-round resources to find the most appropriate, safe and engaging learning and developmental products.

Summertime is a perfect time for toys and play.

Dr. Toy's Guide (www.drtoy.com) has been available to "thousands of visitors daily from around the world who have access to the information." The site was the first on-line resource to evaluate toys and children's products.

"The best play products are selected from companies across the U.S., Canada and other countries provide children with exciting tools that help them to play, develop skills, expand creativity and physical dexterity, prepare for school, and provide constructive activities." The winning products include innovative toys, games, books, videos, audiotapes, software/CD's, crafts, socially responsible and many other children's products.

Dr. Auerbach believes "parents and grandparents need help in locating new, diversified products that children will enjoy using while they increase learning skills, enhance instruction and expand creativity."

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

"Vacation 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 summertime so children have positive experiences during their vacation and are then better prepared for the fall's return to school."

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

In addition to the "Best Vacation Products", Dr. Toy's "100 Best Products,"

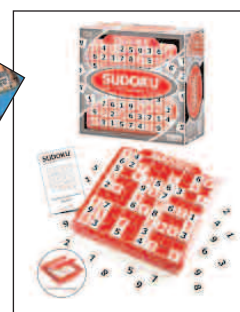
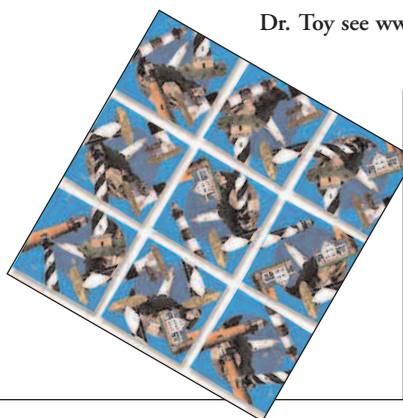
"Best Classic Products Program" and "Smart Toys" reports winning products that are affordable, well designed, and reflect a wide range of baby to older children's interests.

"Best Vacation Products" winners offering plenty of smart play include:

b. dazzle- Covered Bridges, Fly Fishing and OuterBanks Scramble Square® 9-Piece Puzzles, Blue Orange Games-CooCoo the Rocking Clown, Breyer- Animal Creations/Reeves IntlHorse Fun Party Pack for Six, Briarpatch- Sudoku, Cadaco-Buzztime® Head-on Trivia Challenge, Carson Dellosa Publishing-Butterflies Life Cycles Dominoes, Center Enterprises- Ready 2 Learn Giant Stampers Alphabet Combo, WonderWorks Talking Picture Book, Discovery Toys Stargo, Dolly Adventures- Dolly Goes To The Beach, Educational Insights- Kanoodle, Let's Pretend Grill-and-Go Camp Stove, Magic Show! PlayFoam, Space Faces, Trail Mate Outdoor Adventure Tool, Elope- Double Cone Princess Pink, Folkmanis- Harbor Seal Puppet, Elephant, Peacock Puppet, Hooked on Phonics- Hooked on Colors, Handwriting, Numbers, Shapes, International Playthings- Filo by Quercetti, Taggies Big Soft Blocks by Early Years, Kuleana Productions-Hawaiian Lei Making Kit, la Manzana Roja Mom, Dad & Me Aprendemos Español, Learning Horizons- Big, Value, Fun Coloring & Activity, Leap Frog ABC Wipe Off Mat, Learning Resources, Pretend & Play® Snack Shop, Smart Splash® Memory Match Clams™, World Treasure Hunt Mat®, LEGO Systems, Grand Soccer Stadium, Made By Hands-Make-Your-Own™ Masterpieces, Mega Bloks-Building Imaginations™ Small Bag of Maxi™ Blocks, Magnetix® Magnetic Building Set, Tiny'n Tuff® Off-Road Set™, MGA Entertainment-Creature Mix™, Mind Wing Concepts-GM Fun Pack, Rock 'N Learn-Alphabet Exercise Scholastic-Animal Genius, University Games-Magic Cauldron, Walter Foster Publishing-100 Feet of Fun: Drawing Animals, Fun with Manga,Wee Creation-Hip2Hop™ Hopscotch Kit.

More on Program, Products, Companies, Resources and

Dr. Toy see www.drtoy.com

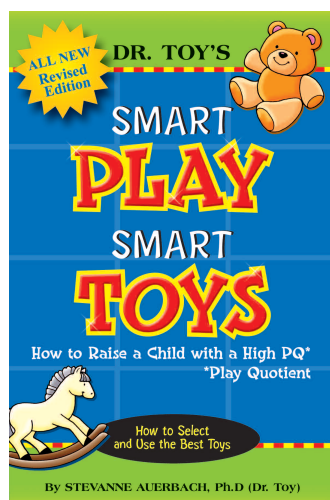


SMART PLAY SMART TOY

Books to Guide Search For The Right Toy

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

The book is now avail-
able in English in India
and the United States,
Korean, Spanish and
Thai. Soon it will be
available in Indonesia,
Israel and Croatia.
For more information:
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"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 supplies for playtime and hundreds of ways to make play a life-long and nurturing experience.

PLAY According 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.



The book is now available
in Korean, Spanish and
Thai. For more informa-
tion, 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

children...
Michael B.
Rothenberg, M.D.
• Auerbach
applies her sci-
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and toys. This
book is a won-
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teachers and
everyone who
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plastic cups to
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watercolors to

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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 mem-
ber), N.Y. C.



"Toys+Play = Smart Kids"