



INSIDE...
GAMES ► NURSERY ► BABY TOYS
PUZZLES ► TECHNOLOGY ► ROLE PLAY
+ MUCH MORE!



**RIGHT
START**



AWARDS GUIDE 2018



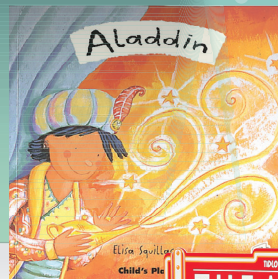
All your birthday & Christmas shopping – SORTED

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TOTS**

Online Shop



Fun toys for your little one this Christmas



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WELCOME TO THE RIGHT START AWARDS 2018

We bring you the very best toys and nursery products for children up to eight, for Christmas and beyond. Every product in our guide has been tried and tested by families with small children – giving you more confidence in your buying choices.

Find all our top picks online at www.rightstartmagazine.co.uk too. Happy shopping!

Note: prices are approximate and were correct at time of going to press. Prices on the internet may vary.

TOP WINNERS' AWARDS

TOP WINNER 0-3 YEARS

Classic World Learning Walker
FROM CLASSIC WORLD
Baby toys, page 6

TOP WINNER 3 YEARS +

Botley™ The Coding Robot
Activity Set
FROM LEARNING RESOURCES
Technology, page 21

TOP INVESTMENT

Sparkle Mansion Wooden Dollhouse
FROM KIDKRAFT
Role play, page 19

TOP VALUE UNDER £10

Look and Find Jigsaw Range
FROM Orchard Toys
Puzzles, page 16

TOP WOW FACTOR

Xootz Viper Go Kart
FROM Wilton Bradley
Active, page 4

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GOLD



BRONZE



SILVER



**HIGHLY
COMMENDED**



Xootz Viper Go Kart

FROM **WILTON BRADLEY**

Age: **5+**

Price: **£100**

Test your steering skills with this striking viper-style, ride-on Go Kart in eye-catching neon green and black. It has a weight capacity of 30kg and features a built-in gear stick and handbrake. The kart's inflatable rubber tyres are suitable for hard or grass surfaces, and its sturdy tubular steel chain, enclosed for extra safety, ensures maximum durability.

TESTERS SAY:

'Our older children had a wonderful time pushing their younger siblings around in the kart: it's great for social as well as individual play. It handles well on uneven terrain and encourages exercise. It really looks the business too!'



Play Brix™ Royal Adventure

FROM **EDUCATIONAL INSIGHTS**

Age: **3+** Price: **£45**

Build a royal castle with these oversized bricks made of sturdy, thick cardboard. The set includes 53 bricks of different sizes as well as seven accessories including flags, turrets and ponies. With a castle design on one side and coloured patterns on the reverse, these 2-in-1 bricks aim to spark imagination and creativity as a solo or group activity.

TESTERS SAY:

'Our son loved building a wall with the blocks and then knocking it down, only to start all over again! It's great for imaginative and team play, but requires a lot of storage space.'



Plum Easy to Build Sandpit



FROM **PLUM PLAY**

Age: **12m+** Price: **£119.99**

Bring the beach to your garden with this simple wooden sandpit which is perfect for small spaces. It includes a protective cover and ground sheet to stop weeds growing through and allow water drainage. The sandpit has rounded corners for safety and takes up only a small space in the garden. For extra play value, sand can be swapped for balls to transform it into an outdoor ball pit.

TESTERS SAY:

'This is a basic alternative to more heavy-duty sandpits, and great if you want something that's easy to pick up and move. It was a perfect fit in our very small garden, but still large enough to give plenty of play value.'

Unicorn Scooter

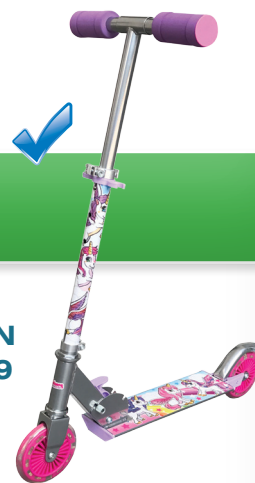
FROM **OZBOZZ**
FROM **H GROSSMAN**

Age: **4+** Price: **£29.99**

Sparkle your way through the neighbourhood with this trendy unicorn-themed scooter. It has two light-up wheels that flash when pressure is applied and is also height-adjustable. The scooter features non-slip decals, a soft handle grip and a simple fold and lock mechanism that makes it easy to transport and store.

TESTERS SAY:

'Our kids love unicorns so this was an instant hit! The unicorn graphics are fun and they enjoyed the light-up wheels, but the foot board could be longer and the wheels better quality.'





Fuzzikins Dozy Dogs and Fuzzikins Cosy Cats

FROM **INTERPLAY**

Age: **4+** Price: **£9.99**

Customise three cute dog or cat figurines with felt tip pens, stickers, eye-masks and a choice of accessories, before putting them to sleep in sleeping bags which can also be decorated. This craft set encourages creativity and imagination, and the figurines are washable, leaving each figurine fresh and ready to be re-designed.

TESTERS SAY:

'Our four-year-old loved the cute little dog family. We've washed the dogs four times already and they still come up bright white.'



Crayola Dough



FROM **BANDAI**

Age: **3+** Price: **£0.49** (dough only)

Create dinosaurs, faces, food or fantastic creatures with Crayola's soft, crumble-free modelling clay. It comes in every colour imaginable and is stored in small tubs which keep the dough fresh. Use with Crayola's extensive range of modelling accessories – including the Ice Cream Parlour, Bakery Shop and the Hair Stylist.

TESTERS SAY:

'This is an inexpensive toy that encourages masses of creativity and can be used with or without Crayola Dough accessories. Our small testers loved being in charge of their own shop!'



Dessineo Learn to Paint by Numbers

FROM **JUMBO GAMES**

Age: **4+** Price: **£9.99**

Together with encouraging creativity, this paint-by-numbers activity reinforces numeracy as little ones match numbers with colours to create a picture. The set includes four sheets to paint, paints, a brush and palette. It's good for co-ordination and concentration, and children will feel a sense of achievement when their artwork is complete.

TESTERS SAY:

'A quiet activity that children can complete on their own. Our four and six-year-olds were absorbed from start to finish.'



Plasticine Noodle Doodle



FROM **GP FLAIR**

Age: **3+** Price: **£5.99**

Peel apart Plasticine Softieez Noodle strips and doodle them onto a variety of pre-designed cards included in the craft set. The plasticine comes in a rainbow of bright colours and is soft and easy to manipulate. It never dries and can be re-used to create scenes and designs from your child's own imagination.

TESTERS SAY:

'The children enjoyed freestyling with the plasticine and following the suggested designs. It is rather messy but the kids don't mind!'



Dessineo Learn to Paint by Stencils

FROM **JUMBO GAMES**

Age: **4+** Price: **£9.99**

Create an eye-catching image with this stencil painting activity, which includes one roller, a paint brush, five paints and four different stencils. Layer the stencils over one another and you'll end up with a complete picture or character. Mix and match templates to create something original.

TESTERS SAY:

'The paints are good quality but the process is rather time consuming: children lose a little interest waiting for the paint to dry and washing the roller/brush!'

BABY TOYS



Classic World Learning Walker

FROM **CLASSIC WORLD**
Age: **12m+** Price: **£49.99**

Encourage baby's first steps with this sturdy wooden walker that features sorting blocks, a puzzle, xylophone, clock and cogs, and rubberised wheels for easy steering. It's designed to build confidence in walking but also to develop co-ordination, balance and physical strength. The walker has an easy-to-grip handle bar and is decorated with non-toxic paint.



TESTERS SAY:

'Beautifully coloured and non gender-specific, this walker will help babies discover new things as they develop, after first helping to steady them on their feet.'



Winnie the Pooh Puzzle Train

FROM **ORANGE TREE TOYS**
Age: **12m+** Price: **£29.99**

Join Pooh, Piglet, Owl and Eeyore on an adventure with this wooden toy train that includes a handy string enabling little ones to pull their locomotive around. The bold, brightly coloured characters and carriages are well designed for little fingers and can be taken apart and rebuilt, developing problem solving skills and dexterity.



Water Babies Bubba Bath Toy

FROM **WATER BABIES**
Age: **Birth +**
Price: **£8.99**

Have a whale of a time with Bubba which is hand-painted with food grade dye and made from 100 per cent natural latex rubber. The whale is safe for newborns but also fun for toddlers who are into role play games. Great for tempting reluctant little ones into the bath!

TESTERS SAY:

'Bubba is soft, easy to grasp and his big eyes are a focal point for babies. We love that the toy is fully sealed, preventing the collection of mould.'



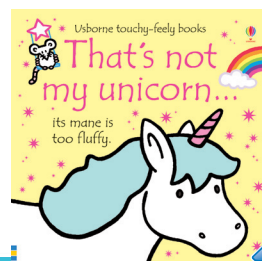
Water Babies Bath Book, 1-2-3 Bubba in the Sea

FROM **WATER BABIES**
Age: **Birth+**
Price: **£5.99**

Journey with Bubba the whale as he adventures through the water, counting his friends and making noises as he spies monkeys, ducks and penguins. The 10-page bath book, suitable for babies and toddlers, features recognisable animals, simple counting and early phonics in the form of noises.

TESTERS SAY:

'A cute story and appealing for little ones who always enjoy animals and the noises they make. Good to use with the Bubba bath toy.'



That's Not My Unicorn

FROM **USBORNE PUBLISHING**
Age: **Birth+**
Price: **£6.99**

The latest character in Usborne's 'That's Not My' series is a magical unicorn, with the requisite white mouse to spot on every page. This sparkly, touchy-feely book will be enjoyed by babies and toddlers, who will love touching the textured patches as they try to find their unicorn.

TESTERS SAY:

'Little ones will enjoy the trendy unicorn theme of this colourful, durable book.'



TESTERS SAY:

'The puzzle-building dynamic gives this toy extra play value. It's good for role play and is also a fun summer accessory for outdoors – little ones will enjoy pulling it along inside or out.'



Petit Activity Cube



FROM **LE TOY VAN**

Age: **12m+** Price: **£29.95**

A small wooden activity cube that features an open-and-close door, a spinning weather wheel, revolving ABC/123 flaps, a xylophone (with stick), three spinning cogs in a flower motif – and two birds sliding across an autumn tree! Vibrantly coloured and with detailed art work, this multifunctional toy is appealing and educational for babies and toddlers just learning to explore.



TESTERS SAY:

'This is beautifully made and easy to store. Our 18-month-old loved the dial feature, placing the xylophone stick in the holes of the dial to make it spin. She was also fascinated by the open and close door.'



Spike the Fine Motor Hedgehog™

FROM **LEARNING RESOURCES**

Age: **2+** Price: **£16**

Learn colour recognition and sorting skills with Spike the two-piece hedgehog. The toy includes 12 soft plastic quills of different colours that are inserted into holes in Spike's back and can then be removed again. The quills can be stored inside when play is finished.

TESTERS SAY:

'The design is cute and appealing, and the pieces are tactile for small hands. Our two-year-old enjoyed the hedgehog theme. A fun toy for small children.'



ewan Deluxe

FROM **SWEET DREAMERS**

Age: **Birth+**
Price: **£37.99**

Settle your baby to sleep with this soft, cuddly sheep. It's fitted with a smart CRY sensor that can sense babies' noise and movement, and cajole them back to sleep with soothing sounds and a calming pink glow. Ewan produces four heartbeat sounds as well as other soothing sounds.

TESTERS SAY:

'It's able to learn your baby's cry and respond – very clever!'



Lumie Bedbug

FROM **LUMIE**

Age: **Birth+**
Price: **£59.99**

Shaped like a cute bug, this fully adjustable nightlight can be used as part of a bedtime routine to help babies and toddlers sleep comfortably. Lumie emits a low-blue light and features a 15-minute sunset function for gradual transition to night, with two sunset options: fade-to-off or fade-to-nightlight.

TESTERS SAY:

'Easy to operate, with good functionality, this provides a warm light that is ideal for creating a calming bedtime atmosphere.'



Gears! Gears! Gears!® Machines in Motion

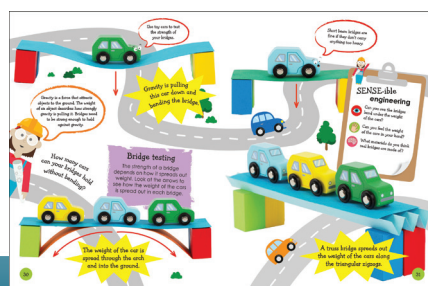
FROM **LEARNING RESOURCES**

Age: **5+** Price: **£38**

Engineer actual working machines with this 112-piece set that includes sturdy plastic gears, propellers, a wrecking ball, chains, pulleys, wheels and axles. The parts can be mixed and matched in endless combinations, and the turning and spinning gears add a layer of interactivity to completed creations.

TESTERS SAY:

'Recommended for boys and girls who show an interest in mechanics. A clever introduction to the principles of cause/effect, this toy offers good scope for creativity.'



Look I'm an Engineer

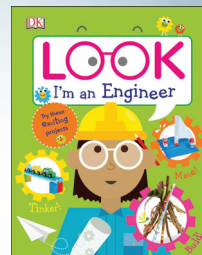
FROM **DK**

Age: **3+** Price: **£7.99**

An activity-focused children's book that sets simple engineering tasks for smaller children – encouraging them to think logically and laterally. Tasks include constructing a sweet pyramid with marshmallows, a magical woodland den and boats that float. Every project has a mix of appealing photography and illustrations with easy-to-follow instructions.

TESTERS SAY:

'As well as a wonderful way to teach children some basic life/science principles, the projects encourage creativity and the book is great value for money.'



Chocolate Sprinkle Stix



FROM **JOHN ADAMS LEISURE**

Age: **6+** Price: **£20.99**

Indulge in home-made chocolate sprinkle sticks with this battery-operated gadget that includes a base unit, chocolate melter, sprinkle dome, funnel, stirrer, spoon, bread stick holders, tray and display stand. Simply follow the instructions: melt your chocolate, dip your breadstick, blast with sprinkles and then allow to set or eat straight away!

TESTERS SAY:

'It's hard to imagine anything which is much more enticing to children than making their own chocolate! The chocolate takes a long time to melt (make sure you cut it into tiny pieces to speed up the process) but the girls loved embellishing their breadsticks with sprinkles and of course the very best bit was eating them!'

My Living World - Worm World



FROM **INTERPLAY**

Age: **5+** Price: **£14.99**

A home for worms that allows children to see inside the curious underground world these squiggly creatures occupy in our gardens. Some small children feel anxious around insects so this is a great introduction to the way they live. The activity includes plastic housing, tunnelling materials (coloured sand that shows where worms have been squirming), shade for the worms to make their homes in, and even an informative 20-page activity guide written by nature expert Nick Baker.

TESTERS SAY:

'Digging for worms is the best part of this toy. The children enjoyed holding and examining the specimens we collected before placing them in their new home.'



EasyRead Time Teacher Past & To Rainbow Wall Clock

FROM **EASYREAD TIME TEACHER**

Age: **5+** Price: **£24.95**

Help children tell the time with this eye-catching wall clock. It uses a three-step teaching system that makes it easy for little ones to learn to read the time in terms of 'minutes past' and 'minutes to' the hour. The clock also features a silent 'sweep' second hand, showing that time is constant and not stop/start.

TESTERS SAY:

'Bright, fun and noiseless, the clock is perfect for a child's bedroom. It's a simple visual representation of time and a useful tool for teaching time-telling.'



Out To Impress Sew Your Own Owl Cushion

FROM **ADDO PLAY**

Age: **7+** Price: **£10**

Make a funky Owl Cushion to scatter on your bed with this starter sewing kit. The craft set includes 17 pieces of pre-punched felt, a plastic needle, two bags of stuffing, five assorted lengths of embroidery thread and an instruction sheet – everything you need for a fabulous result.

TESTERS SAY:

'Sewing is a bit of a dying art so we were pleased to see this. The sewing project offers a simple design, with stamped markings and clear instructions, that a seven-year-old can make without much help and supervision.'

Stickle Bricks Fire Engine



FROM **GP FLAIR/JUST PLAY**

Age: **2+** Price: **£16.99**

Stick, stack and construct these easy-to-assemble bricks into a red fire engine that's ready to fight fires and save kittens from trees in a world of imaginative fun. Use in conjunction with the Stickle Bricks Farm Set and other expansion packs to create an entire village of interesting characters and role play designs.



TESTERS SAY:

'Along with animals, people and other articulated sets, this little fire engine expands the scope of play and imagination in the world of Stickle Bricks. The pieces are so easy for little fingers to assemble, too.'

Simbrix



FROM **SIMBRIX**

Age: **6+** Price: **£18**

A new pixel art and bead system, Simbrix connects together without water, glue or an iron and pegboard. The interlocking 'brix' fuse as a unit until you want to make something new, in which case they come apart easily. Included in the Simbrix starter kit is a play tray, Primo Pack (approximately 1000 brix) and an inspiration deck with a choice of Simbrix designs.

TESTERS SAY:

'A clever, creative product that inspires imagination and encourages patience, persistence and fine motor skills. This set kept our six-year-old daughter amused for an entire rainy morning! Booster packs are also available to extend the fun.'

IMAGINARY WORLDS



Smart Tech Engine Set with Action Tunnels

FROM **BRIO**

Age: **3+** Price: **£89.95**

A traditional toy with a distinctly modern twist! The durable wooden train track has Smart Technology that enables a Smart engine to receive commands from other Smart enabled devices. All you need to do is to set up the included Smart Tech arches around the track and then press 'go' on the engine, which will automatically detect each arch and either stop,

start, go slow, turn on the lights or make a sound.

TESTERS SAY:

'This is a beautifully made track. It's very easy for small fingers to piece together and our testers found it great fun in role play games. Our only reservation is that the track itself is quite small so it makes it harder for several children to play with at the same time.'



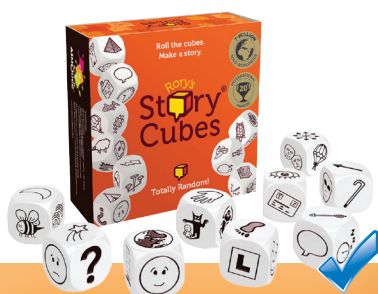
PJ Masks Romeo's Lab Playset

FROM

GP FLAIR/JUST PLAY

Age: **3+** Price: **£39.99**

Join super-villain Romeo, the mad scientist, on his quest to annihilate the PJ Masks with mischievous schemes and devices concocted in his lab. This multi-level playset features a light and sound control panel, working crane, laser launcher, and rolling lab charger. It also comes with one Romeo's Robot



Rory's Story Cubes

FROM **ASMODEE**

Age: **6+** Price: **£9.99**

Roll the dice and use the pictures to tell a story. Nine cubes feature pictures on every surface, generating a mass of combinations to inspire stories at bedtime, in role play and in storytelling. This very simple but clever concept is a novel way of keeping the art of storytelling alive.

TESTERS SAY:

'The pictures on the dice are varied and the set is small enough for packing on holiday – it even fits in a handbag. A great toy for encouraging a child's imagination.'



Monster Smash Ups

FROM

WILTON BRADLEY

Age: **3+** Price: **£29.99**

This cool remote-controlled race truck with tilt-turn suspension and high speed capability is actually designed to crash! Pieces explode off the truck and the driver is launched from an ejector seat when it collides with objects in its path. After a crash, simply rebuild the truck and do it again.

TESTERS SAY:

'Our kids were enthralled that the car was made to be crashed! They loved watching the pieces fly off, then putting it back together.'



Rivet Lab

FROM

SPIN MASTER TOYS

Age: **3+** Price: **£44.99**

Play with popular character Rusty Rivet in his Rivet Lab, which includes real lights and sounds from the show. It opens to reveal Rusty's workshop and closes for easy storage. It has grab attachments and also features a launcher and projectile, crane, turret, refrigerator and sticker sheets.

TESTERS SAY:

'Fans of the Rusty Rivets show will adore helping Rusty to work in his lab! There are lots of elements so it's great for imaginative play.'



figure and three bonus tools for extra imaginative play.

TESTERS SAY:

'Our five-year-old's eyes lit up when he saw this toy and I imagine that any PJ Masks fan will go mad for it! The claw attachment and talking computer are what excited our son the most. It really does encourage children to use their imagination, but it's also great for developing hand/eye co-ordination.'



Super Wings Transforming Vehicles

FROM **ALPHA ANIMATION**

Age: **3+** Price: **£12.99**

Now you see it, now you don't! Transform favourite members of the Super Wings team from plane (or vehicle) to robot in just 10 simple steps. Popular characters Jett, Paul and Donnie are always on the lookout for kids in need of help. Re-create your favourite missions from the TV show or make up new ones with these fun friends.

TESTERS SAY:

'This is a really imaginative toy. It can be used in so many different role play scenarios. Our three-year-old had a wonderful time playing with it – he loved the transformation process and has already spent hours of play with his new pal. Highly recommended for children from three years and upwards.'



Chimpanzee Costume

FROM **CHARLIE CROW**

Age: **3+** Price: **£22**

Check out this cheeky chimp dress-up suit with attached hood, mittens and detachable banana. The fur is soft and the acrylic costume is machine washable at 30 degrees. It comes in four sizes from four to 12 years old, and is not only good for parties but is a fun role play accessory when creating games at home.

TESTERS SAY:

'With the velcro attachment, it's easy for children to get the costume on and off themselves. The detachable banana is cute.'



Bush Baby World Scented Blossom Meadow Bush Baby

FROM

GOLDEN BEAR

Age: **5+** Price: **£12.99**

With eyes that can wiggle and ears that can waggle, this furry Bush Baby is as cute as it gets. The nature-themed Bush Baby range includes a variety of characters, either scented or sparkly. Each personality comes with patterned ears, paws and tummy plus a brush for grooming its neon hair.

TESTERS SAY:

'Our daughter loved the rolling eyes and moving ears. It's a good size to play with and fits easily into a handbag to take out.'



Mission Cruiser

FROM

SPIN MASTER TOYS

Age: **3+** Price: **£44.99**

Join Robo Dog on an all important Paw Patrol mission, with his very cool Mission Cruiser which takes all your favourite pups and their rescue racers. The vehicle comes with a pop-up screen and animated mission card to view your mission or load the mission card into the new Mission Pup Pad (sold separately).

TESTERS SAY:

'A great toy for an avid Paw Patrol fan although it would be nice if it came with some more figurines.'

NURSERY NEEDS



Medela Swing Pump & Feed

FROM **MEDELA**
Price: **£144.99**

Medela's electric breast pump uses 2-Phase Expression technology, which mimics baby's sucking to make expressing efficient and comfortable. The set comes with all the essentials required for the pump, plus three bottles, a bottle stand, breast milk bags and quick clean microwave bags.

TESTERS SAY:

'Small and light, this breast pump is perfect for travel and for when you're out and about (with battery operation function). We found it very easy to use and effective – and expressing felt very comfortable and similar to sucking. It's well made and extra parts are easily accessible if and when required.'



Flexi Holder

FROM **FLEXI**
Price: **£34.99**

Compatible with most cameras on the market, the Flexi Holder is designed to position monitors in a way that allows parents a full view inside baby's cot. It comes with a shelf, a flexible hose to hold and adjust the camera for best viewing angles and a clamp to secure the camera. It's lightweight and portable – ideal for travel.



Cuddledry Handsfree Towel

FROM **CUDDLEDRY**
Age: **Birth +**
Price: **£29.99**

Hands-free baby bath towel featuring an apron-style neck piece which leaves your hands free for bathing, lifting and snuggling baby. It's made from pure unbleached cotton and natural bamboo fibre. Long and soft, the towel cocoons baby whilst protecting parents from getting wet.

TESTERS SAY:

'No more grappling for a towel whilst holding a squirming newborn! It's soft, snuggly and makes bathing baby easier.'



Bio Oil

FROM **UNION SWISS**
Price: **£8.99**

Used for the treatment of scars and blemishes, Bio Oil helps to prevent the formation of stretch marks during pregnancy and to improve the appearance of existing stretch marks and uneven skin tone. Massage in a circular motion into the skin, twice daily, for a minimum of three months, to see results.

TESTERS SAY:

'Bio Oil is an effective product that is easy to apply, long-lasting and makes skin feel supple, but it must be rubbed in properly to prevent oily residue.'



Medela Purelan 100 Nipple Cream

FROM **MEDELA**
Price: **£6.99**

Ointment that provides instant soothing relief for sore and cracked nipples, Purelan can also be used on your lips, nose or dry patches on your baby's skin. There is no need to remove it before breastfeeding. It contains 100 per cent pure wool wax, called lanolin, which is hypo-allergenic and free of artificial additives and preservatives.

TESTERS SAY:

'Long lasting and in a convenient travel-size tube, the cream is good value for money and works well.'



TESTERS SAY:

'Very flexible and easy to use, the holder can be placed at a variety of different angles using existing furniture. More Velcro sticker mounts would be useful.'



Bodyguard Pro

FROM
HAUCK FUN FOR KIDS
Age: **3+** Price: **£149.99**

This grow-along car seat for children from 15-36 kg incorporates: a shock-absorbing side-impact protection system with memory foam plus air-pocket system; height-adjustable headrest along with integrated side wings width adjustment; optimised seat-belt guide and ISOFIX connect.



TESTERS SAY:

'The ISOFIX makes the chair really easy to fit. It's comfortable and the diagonal seatbelt sits well away from the neck. The seat cover is machine washable.'



Easyfit STAR

FROM **TOTSBOTS**
Age: **Birth+** Price: **£17.99**

An all-in-one reusable nappy with clever stitch-free seams that help avoid leaks, day or night. The nappy is designed to fit children from newborn to potty training (8-35lbs) and includes an absorbent bamboo core and stay-dry buffer zones to keep liquid locked in. It also features an easy hook and loop fastening.

TESTERS SAY:

'Available in an array of fun designs, it's effective and good value although a bamboo booster is recommended for night time.'



Medela Breast Milk Store and Feed Set

FROM **MEDELA**
Price: **£24.99**

Switch between breast and bottle with Medela's shatterproof bottles, which are dishwasher and microwave safe. The Store and Feed set includes four bottles (two 150ml bottles and two 250ml bottles) and five breast milk bags. Milk can be pumped directly into the bottles and stored safely in the freezer.

TESTERS SAY:

'The bottles didn't leak or break when dropped. Our two-month-old took easily to the bottle but was still happy to breastfeed.'



Medela Harmony

FROM **MEDELA**
Price: **£24.99**

Like the electric Swing Pump & Feed model, Medela's manual pump features 2-Phase Expression technology, which mimics baby's sucking to make pumping as efficient as possible. With an ergonomic twist handle, it's easy to use and is ideal for occasional pumping or as a back-up to an electric pump.

TESTERS SAY:

'Quick to assemble, fits in a handbag and noiseless – great for travel. It is a little more effort than an electric pump though.'

POCKET MONEY TOYS



Marty's Slime

FROM **H GROSSMAN**

Age: **3+**

Price: **£0.99**

Sticky, sloppy and oh-so-disgusting, Marty's Slime pot is perfect for children who like to get their hands messy. It comes in a storage tub and is available in five colours (pink, green, blue, yellow and orange). The slime is non-toxic, entirely safe and gross enough to make it totally awesome for all ages.

TESTERS SAY:

'Great packaging and fun for everyone. It is amazing the amount of pleasure and enjoyment children of all ages can get from a simple pot of gunky stuff! Marty's Slime is way better than our homemade version. In fact, the children loved it so much we had to buy more, which was not a problem as it's so inexpensive!'



Playfoam® Pals™

FROM

EDUCATIONAL INSIGHTS

Age: **5+**

Price: **£3**

Dig into your playfoam to uncover one of 12 animal critters with pop-apart bodies and heads for mixing, matching and creating new species. Fashion boats, beds and more for your new pal by squishing and squashing your playfoam into different shapes and sizes. It's mess-free, non-toxic and encourages the development of fine motor skills.

TESTERS SAY:

'Playfoam will keep children busy for ages: they'll enjoy moulding it into weird and wonderful creations and the animal surprise makes it a must-have. Good value for money!'



Baby Secrets Single Packs

FROM **ZAPF CREATION**

Age: **4+**

Price: **£2.99**

Hiding in each mini bath tub is a surprise Baby Secrets figure with its own special personality. Dip the baby in water and watch its nappy turn pink for a girl or blue for a boy. There are over 50 babies to collect and each pack comes with a collectors' guide plus a birth certificate.

TESTERS SAY:

'Ideal for learning to nurture in a fun way and a great role play accessory in doll or character games. Our five-year-old liked the element of surprise.'



Unicorn Grow Egg – Rainbow Shell

FROM **H GROSSMAN**

Age: **3+**

Price: **£2.99**

Submerge this multi-coloured, rainbow egg in water and wait 72 hours for a small miracle to occur! A unicorn will hatch and start to grow. Once it has emerged from its shell, give it a quick rinse and begin to take care of your magical new friend. The egg is a fun novelty toy – perfect for a party bag or Christmas stocking.

TESTERS SAY:

'This is one of those toys that, despite being inexpensive, has enormous appeal to children and really does fire their imagination. Such a simple idea that engages both curiosity and excitement, the unicorn can also be played in role-play games after the novelty of the hatching.'

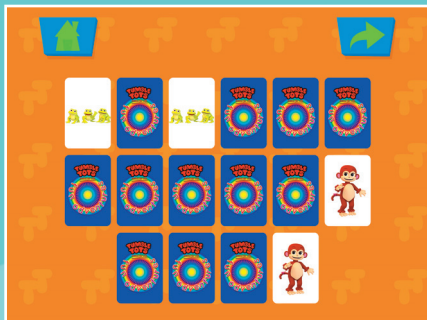
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PUZZLES, JIGSAWS, GAMES



Zingo



FROM **THINK FUN**

Age: **4+**

Price: **£25.99**

Match pictures and words in this family game that uses the principles of Bingo to create a child-friendly competition. Race to be the first player with a full card and yell 'ZINGO!'. The game has two levels of play (colour-coded green and red) and includes 72 tiles plus a Zingo Zinger tile dispenser.

TESTERS SAY:

'A brilliant family game that works for all ages. The Zingo Zinger tile dispenser is a nifty little gadget: it's easy to operate and a fun novelty, too.'



Look and Find Jigsaw Range



FROM **ORCHARD TOYS**

Age: **3+** Price: **£8**

TOP
VALUE
UNDER £10

Orchard's Look and Find range includes four different jigsaw themes – Alphabet, Number, Colour and Shape. Boxes include 2-in-1 activity puzzles that develop letter and number skills and encourage colour, pattern and shape recognition. After completing the puzzles, children can match the images shown on each – developing observational skills.

TESTERS SAY:

'We particularly enjoyed the underwater theme of the Shape jigsaw: it was fun piecing the puzzle together and then searching for each object.'



Petting Zoo My First Games

FROM **EDUCATIONAL INSIGHTS**

Age: **2+**

Price: **£20**

Guess the texture with this simple sensory awareness game. It comes with a plastic barn, six textured farm animals and a touch and feel textured spinner. To play, spin the spinner and then feel around inside the barn to find an animal matching the texture on the spinner. Keep the animal if you guessed correctly! It's a fun way to introduce farm animals too. Smaller children can play with it alone, or older children can enjoy taking turns to guess.

TESTERS SAY:

'Toddler toys tend to focus on colour and shape so the Petting Zoo is an interesting variation, although a few more animals would make the game last longer.'



Peppa Pig's Interactive Playmat

FROM **TRENDS UK**

Age: **3+**

Price: **£19.99**

Peppa Pig is enduringly popular with little ones. This bright and colourful interactive floor mat, featuring Peppa and all her family and friends, is a treat for fans of the popular TV show. Children can select from four different play modes including games such as 'look and find', 'Peppa says' and a singalong. Simply choose a play mode, follow Peppa's instructions and wait for the fun to begin!

TESTERS SAY:

'Children who love Peppa Pig will love this toy. It helps little ones to learn in an active and playful way – our three-year-old was hooked and was soon able to work out the different play modes for herself!'



PJ Masks Night-Light 72pc 3D Puzzle



FROM **RAVENSBURGER**

Age: **6+** Price: **£19.99**

Light up your room with this 3D puzzle which can be assembled by eye or by following the numbers printed on the back of each puzzle piece. Featuring Cat boy, Owlets and Gekko trying to save the world from villains Romeo, Luna and the Night Ninjas, this PJ Masks light will wow fans of the show.

TESTERS SAY:

'Simple to slot together (no glue needed), the light is a cool accessory in any child's bedroom. Children will love clapping their hands to turn the light on and off.'



Rubik's Junior

FROM **JOHN ADAMS LEISURE**

Age: **4+**
Price: **£10**

These twistable animal puzzles, styled on the popular Rubik's Cube, are ideal for little problem solvers. Twist the blocks to create a crazy mixed-up animal and then twist them again to get back to the original character. There are four animals in the range; a bunny, dog, cat and bear.

TESTERS SAY:

'Simple and fun, the Rubik's animals are an easy introduction to the concept of the traditional Rubik's cube, and can also be used for role play/imaginative games.'



Thomas & Friends Train Race Game

FROM **RAVENSBURGER**

Age: **3+**
Price: **£14.99**

Race around the track with this fun Thomas the Tank Engine board game. For two or more players, the game involves rolling a colour-coded dice and moving the corresponding coloured train around the board. The winner is the one who correctly guesses which colour train will get to the end of the track first.

TESTERS SAY:

'An easy board game that doesn't require numbered dice and encourages children to play without too much pressure on winning – two or more players can win if they choose the correct colour. Our son and his friend, both three years old, enjoyed a very amicable game together!'



Dinosaur Lotto

FROM **ORCHARD TOYS**

Age: **3+**
Price: **£7.50**

Learn about dinosaurs with this colourful matching and memory game. Take it in turns to turn over the dinosaur cards and be the first to fill in a dinosaur board with matching pictures. The game includes blank boards for more challenging game play and features a wide variety of dinosaur characters to keep children engaged.

TESTERS SAY:

'Dinosaur Lotto is great quality game that is fun, educational and appealing to a broad age range, including both boys and girls. A really good way to encourage children to be sociable and to observe turn-taking.'



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Baby Annabell Interactive Brother Doll



FROM **ZAPF CREATION**

Age: **3+** Price: **£54.99**

Just like a real baby, the Brother Doll cries real tears, burps, yawns and falls asleep when he is rocked. He even wets his nappy and babbles, gurgles and sucks on his bottle or dummy with real sounds. The doll comes with a bottle, dummy, bib, nappy and a lamb-shaped pendant for little ones to wear.

TESTERS SAY:

'With so many features and extra items, both the Brother and Sister dolls are great for hours of role play fun. Our kids loved taking care of the babies.'



Plum 3-in-1 Cabin Wooden Kitchen



FROM **PLUM PLAY**

Age: **3+** Price: **£79.99**

Cook, serve and entertain with this 3-in-1 kitchen that includes a diner, utility room, puppet theatre and funny-face photo wall. This retro-style unit features a two-door oven, dual inset hobs, a clock with movable hands, a removable basin and turning tap plus working oven dials. It also comes with wooden cooking accessories.

TESTERS SAY:

'Pretty and tasteful, this kitchen occupies our daughter's interest for hours at a time. Folding panels make it easy to store and add play value too.'



Sparkle Mansion Wooden Dollhouse



FROM **KIDKRAFT**

Age: **3+**
Price: **£189.95**

TOP
INVESTMENT

Complete with a swimming pool, gliding elevator, a garage (with doors that open and close) and 30 hand-painted accessories, this glamorous ultra-modern dollhouse is a dream. It has six rooms and two outdoor spaces including a balcony. The dollhouse is designed for 12-inch dolls and stands over four feet tall.

TESTERS SAY:

'Wow! This glamorous dollhouse is every little girl's dream! It's big enough for more than one player at a time and comes with a fabulous collection of furniture. Absolutely wonderful for role play games, independently or in a group.'



Baby Born Interactive Rain Fun Shower

FROM **ZAPF CREATION**

Age: **3+**
Price: **£42.99**

Designed to use with the Baby Annabell Brother and Sister Dolls, this working shower cubicle includes an adjustable shower head, a water flow regulator, an opening and closing door, plus a harness and towel. Control the water flow with a switch, to make sure baby has the perfect wash routine.

TESTERS SAY:

'What is really great about this product is that it works for other dolls too, so all our 'babies' are now sparkling clean. Our three-year-old is not too keen on either the bath or the shower, but this toy has certainly given her a more positive attitude to her daily bathing routine! Definitely recommended.'

ROLE PLAY



Pepperpot Kitchen

FROM **KIDKRAFT**

Age: **3+** Price: **£199.95**

Practice for MasterChef with this innovative kitchen that includes a microwave, refrigerator, freezer, washing machine and chalk board. The cupboard doors open and close and the kitchen features realistic burners, oven knobs that click and turn, a cordless phone, a removable sink and storage space.

TESTERS SAY:

'Our daughters loved the chalk board – writing down shopping lists! A durable kitchen that is fun for boys and girls.'



Design & Drill® My First Workbench

FROM **EDUCATIONAL INSIGHTS**

Age: **3+** Price: **£38**

Hammer and drill bolts directly into this plastic workbench, to create an array of colourful designs. This tool set comes with a storage drawer, electric bolt driver, hammer, 60 bolts, 60 nails and a guide that includes 10 patterns. Great for creative thinking and fine motor skills.

TESTERS SAY:

'The toy can be played with in pairs or alone, and children can follow a pattern or create something new.'



Card Machine

FROM **LE TOY VAN**

Age: **3+** Price: **£9.95**

Manage a shop or restaurant with this wooden card machine painted to match the Honey Bake role play collection. The card machine comes with a wooden receipt and payment card, and extra cardboard receipts can be cut out from the toy's box for extended play value.

TESTERS SAY:

'The toy offers modern modes of payment – swiping or tapping cards – which draw children into the real world whilst encouraging imaginative play.'



Casdon Dyson Cord-free Vacuum

FROM **CASDON**

Age: **4+** Price: **£22**

Help mum or dad clean the house with Casdon's battery operated cord-free vacuum. It includes attachments for short nozzle or long-handled 'twist and turn' cleaning (just like the real thing). It also features a 'one hand' easy removal system, as well as working suction and whizzing cyclone action with realistic sound.

TESTERS SAY:

'Easy to piece together (our four-year-old did it without help), the cord-free is a good role play device with excellent sound effects.'



Let's Cook Wooden Play Kitchen

FROM **KIDKRAFT**

Age: **3+** Price: **£89.95**

Aspiring chefs will cook up a storm with this interactive kitchen unit featuring turning oven knobs, opening appliance doors, a pull-down faucet and realistic burners with lights and sound. It also comes with a removable sink, play phone, hooks and shelving that provides plenty of storage.

TESTERS SAY:

'Perfect for small spaces, this kitchen is compact and easy to build. We loved the additional hooks, spacious cupboards, gas hob and the modern tap feature.'



Abbey Manor Wooden Dollhouse

FROM **KIDKRAFT**

Age: **3+** Price: **£99.95**

An adorable Victorian-style dollhouse, with three levels and five charmingly-decorated rooms. It features a double-hinged design that opens up for extra play and also folds away compactly for storage. The dollhouse includes a removable wraparound porch and 16 accessories to decorate each room.

TESTERS SAY:

'An inviting dollhouse with furniture that is both attractive and durable. It was a challenge to build, but is a good size for smaller spaces.'



Botley™ The Coding Robot Activity Set

FROM **LEARNING RESOURCES**

Age: **5+** Price: **£79**

Learn the basic principles of coding with this programmable robot. An easy-to-use remote enables children to program Botley to move forward, turn right or left, reverse, avoid or detect an object, make a sound, create a loop and repeat a sequence. It comes with a stack of accessories to create obstacle courses: cubes, cones, flags, two balls, a goal and detachable robot arms that allow Botley to move objects.

**TOP
WINNER
3 YEARS +**

TESTERS SAY:

'Botley makes abstract concepts concrete and gets children excited about coding. Our four-to-eight year olds enjoyed plotting mazes and (without realising it) using logic to programme Botley out of dire situations.'



Fire HD 8 Kids Edition Tablet

FROM **AMAZON**

Age: **3+** Price: **£129.99**

Designed specifically for children, Amazon's tablet includes HD display, 32 GB of internal storage and up to 12 hours of mixed-use battery life. It comes with a kid-proof case and a year's free access to over 5,000 apps – games, videos, books and educational content. This subscription-based model also features flexible parental controls, allowing parents to manage usage limits, content access and educational goals.

TESTERS SAY:

'The tablet is a good (and cheaper) alternative to an iPad. The time apportionment controls are useful and there are many apps to choose from although setting up user profiles is time consuming.'



X Factor XF2 Mi-Mic Microphone

FROM **WILTON BRADLEY**

Age: **3+**

Price: **£24.99**

Reveal your inner diva with this X-Factor themed, Bluetooth microphone. The mic has a 10m range, up to five hours play time (with a rechargeable battery) and features an LED lights speaker, echo functionality, voice changing modes, mic and speaker volume. Plus, you'll find a micro SD card/micro USB charging/USB port, LED functionality and Play/Pause.

TESTERS SAY:

'This mic is effectively a self-contained karaoke machine and is a brilliant buy for the 5+ age group. It's especially fun in a group of friends, and the voice changer/echo effect was a huge hit with our kids!'



Dino Tales Junior



FROM **KUATO GAMES**

Age: **2+** Price: **£2.99**

Nurture seven baby dinosaurs by finding, hatching and attending to their needs with water, food and cuddles. The app even allows little ones to decorate their dino-pals, alter their colouring and send them to a disco! Also, children can create their own storybook and fill it with personalised Dino Tales or explore the prehistoric world of the dinosaurs, play games and engage in a selection of educational activities.

TESTERS SAY:

'A simple app that is interactive, educational and easy for pre-schoolers to navigate without help. Our daughter's favourite activity was taking care of her pet dinosaur.'

A

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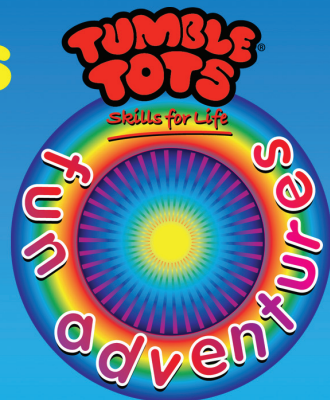
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TT is wishing he was smaller, Spike is wishing he was taller, and when they are transported into their imaginary world their wishes come true! Join in with 3 favourite songs – Teddy Bear, Little Monkeys and Wiggly Woo.

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The children are playing with their toy ship, but the sails are so torn it can hardly sail along, and when they are transported into their imagery world they find themselves on a real ship. Sing to 3 great action songs – Row Row Row the Boat, Incy Wincy Spider and Deep Blue Sea.



SPACE HOPPERS

The children are talking about the planets and stars, and when they are transported into their imaginary world they find themselves in Space! Sing along to three lovely songs – Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star, Peter Hammers and Three Little Men in a Flying Saucer.



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