

## TOYS FOR LEARNING



Babies through age 12 months:

When they are less mobile:

- + Gertie Balls
- + Your face and movements 😊 :peekaboo; raspberries, facial expressions
- + Crinkle cloths
- + Mirrors
- + Play mat activity gym
- + Taggies character blankets
- + Soft books with pages that have sound of touch
- + Footie slippers that make noise when you move
- + Mylar balloons that you can grab and observe what happens (with an adult present 😊)
- + Baby Einstein Pop and Glow Piano
- + Rattles for mouthing and shaking

When they are sitting and crawling:

- + Banging on pots/pans
- + Toys that respond to light touch, movement or sound
- + Toys that you pull
- + Blocks for banging and mouthing
- + Bubbles and bubble machines
- + Toys that you can imitate together: drums, rattles, blocks that you bang together\*\*

\*\*imitation is the key: you make noises after they do; they bang a pot, you bang a pot, then watch for if they begin to imitate your actions

Age 1-2

- + Dump, fill pull. Coffee can and lid filled with scarves is one type
- + Bubbles and bubble machines
- + Stacking rings or toys that go in like a bird(not shape sorters)
- + Cause-effect toys (they poke, push or touch and something happens)
- + Bubble popper push toy
- + shopping cart
- + play houses/cabins/slides
- + any pretend play centers: tools, kitchens, etc
- + Fisher price houses for toddlers
- + Bath toys

Ages 2-3

EBAY picks and home

- + Any Fisher Price house {symbolic play, vocabulary building, sequencing and cause-effect}
- + characters or current craze: houses, characters

- ✚ Characters from favorite movies or books
- ✚ Cariboo board game

#### Toy Store picks

- ✚ Any toys you can organize by sameness: beanie babies, blocks, crayons
- ✚ Gearation ( now John Deere Gearation) (sequencing, problem-solving including cause-effect at higher level)
- ✚ Puppets: creative play
- ✚ Duplo blocks
- ✚ Mr. Potato Head (sequencing, fine motor/speech, body parts( early spatial concepts)
- ✚ Puzzles
- ✚ Bath tub crayons for working on speech with fine motor/tactile input
- ✚ Play-Dough (more for the 3-4 age group)
- ✚ Babies/ stuffed toys especially with a doctor bag or accessories for feeding/clothing (symbolic play, vocabulary)
- ✚ Dinosaurs, PVC characters from movies/tv (classification, symbolic play)
- ✚ Trucks, cars, necklaces
- ✚ Weebles
- ✚ Voice Activated toys (you talk and it moves)
- ✚ Aquarium gravel in a big plastic container: hide toys partially and find them
- ✚ Sand boxes
- ✚ Fisher Price toys are back and at target and amazon: record player; the one with 4 plastic records and winds up: up to 4 step sequencing ; cash register, wind up clock
- ✚ Remote switch toys
- ✚ balls of all kinds: (turn-taking, cause-effect)
- ✚ Fluorescent light tube holder and anything you can race through it (cars, balls)- they are see through
- ✚ Dolls, doll houses
- ✚ Duplo book kits

#### Age 4-5

- ✚ Any of the above are fine
- ✚ Frigits Deluxe by Think-of-it: the marble maze or something along the same lines: verbal and problem solving.
- ✚ Hi-Ho Cherry- O: 1:1 correspondence, sequencing
- ✚ After Shock! (game)
- ✚ Marble Mazes by Discovery Toys or the Frigits complete kit (on-line)
- ✚ Lego Creator Board Game: fine motor, sequencing, constructive play, matching (depends on the child's fine motor skills)
- ✚ Phonics Desks
- ✚ Characters from Star Wars, GI Joe, Barbies, etc...
- ✚ Markers, paper
- ✚ Marbles for classification as well as old-fashioned fun
- ✚ Flashlight (all ages from 4 up)

- ✚ Heads-Up! (memory, using descriptive language; theory of mind/perspective)
- ✚ Play-Dough
- ✚ Transformers- there are quite a few that are made for the younger ages : Rescue Bots, but often kids can do some of the actual Transformers for the older ages
- ✚ Legos
- ✚ Drums, horns ☺
- ✚ Pretend play: dolls, dress-up , super heroes,
- ✚ Playmobil
- ✚ Hex bugs and their habitats

### Age 5

- + Transformers
- + Play-dough (still fun)
- + Capsela (with a lot of adult help but still fun)
- + Big Brain Academy (board game and DS)
- + Zookeepers Nightmare (game found on Amazon)
- + Hot wheels
- + Science kits
- + Brio packaged Bob the builder sets, and other vehicle construction kits. The original, discontinued Brio construction kits were in a blue and red bag made planes, trains cars, cranes, etc. (the older ones can be found on EBAY)

### Ages 6-9

- + The Force (good for attention) and Mind Flex
- + Blink and Set (card games) for classification and reasoning
- + Apple to Apples (social and word play games)
- + Mad Libs
- + Outburst Jr. board game (classification and word finding, vocabulary)
- + Taboo Jr. game (word finding and vocabulary)
- + Apples to Apples Jr. (classification and vocabulary)
- + SET card game (for older kids in this group up to age adult): visual problem solving and reasoning
- + Guess Who board Game
- + Sorry: have Disney Sorry and others. (sequencing, reading, some problem solving)
- + Lego Creator board game
- + LogicBlocs (may be an EBAY item now)  
these use computer chips for a room alarm in one kit, light tag in another and a general gadget in the third -very COOL!!
- + Capsela (still needs some help)
- + Big Brain Academy (board game and DS)
- + Legos
- + Zookeepers Nightmare
- + Osmo: LOTS of new games including coding
- + Rush Hour

### 9-12

- + Prepackaged science kits (found at AMAZON, Classic Toys and Over the Rainbow).
- + Magnet kits
- + Magnetic words in a box
- + Crafts, balloon crafts for directions, sequences, etc.
- + Balloon creatures: how-to kits (directions, sequences)
- + Kids cookbook- directions, math
- + Osmo

- ✚ All board games from above
- ✚ CLUE board game
- ✚ Juggling kits (directions and hand-eye coordination)
- ✚ Legos
- ✚ On the internet for free!!: try quizzes at [www.selectsmart.com](http://www.selectsmart.com), wacky web tales on [www.eduplace.com](http://www.eduplace.com) and the quicksolve mysteries (need to google this☺)
- ✚ Capsela
- ✚ Logilinks

*You tell me and I forget. You teach me and I may remember. You involve me and I learn.*

