



Holiday Gift Guide

Your guide to the best toys
for the kids in your life

We are so excited to bring you the 12th annual Toy Insider holiday gift guide, featuring the best toys, games, and electronics for every child on your holiday shopping list! This year's guide is packed with a brand new selection of toys for children of all ages, and remember: all kids learn through play, so be sure to check out our handy skill key located on the bottom of each page, which shows you exactly which skills and developmental benefits kids can gain from each toy on our list.

Toys that enhance kids' knowledge of science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) can help turn intimidating subjects into fun play experiences. Our STEM 10 list features some of the coolest toys that will stealthily teach kids all about these important fields of study while keeping them entertained for hours.

We spent countless hours testing all of these incredible toys so you can be sure you're making the best decisions for the kids in your life this holiday season. We've been your go-to experts for top toy selections for the past 11 years, and we are very much looking forward to many more years of play. With more than 80 years of combined experience, remember: At the Toy Insider, we know play!

INFANTS & TODDLERS (0-2 YRS)

Every day is a new adventure for babies and toddlers. For this age range, choose items that stimulate their minds, bodies and all five senses. These toys encourage experimentation with colors, shapes, sounds and textures. By offering opportunities for hand-eye coordination, motor skills, language recognition and nurturing, parents are providing little ones with the early development skills they need as they grow up. [View the skill key.](#)

SMARTMAX MY FIRST ANIMAL TRAIN

Product Description

This train set offers an early and safe introduction to magnetic discovery. The oversized train cars and animals easily click together. Kids can also play with the animal and conductor figures separately.

AGES: 18 MOS.+

MANUFACTURER: SMARTMAX

MSRP: 29.99

Sources: <https://www.thetoyinsider.com/2017-holiday-gift-guide/> and <https://www.thetoyinsider.com/toys/smartmax-my-first-animal-train-2/>



PRESCHOOL (3-5 YRS)

Preschoolers are ready to take on a new type of play. Toys for kids this age encourage imaginative and creative activities with role-playing and pretend play. They provide opportunities for active play, get kids to exercise, and capture their spirit of adventure. Social and emotional skills are emerging, so music, arts and crafts, teamwork, and language skills are important to build self-esteem. Toys in this age group should help teach vocabulary and social skills and result in a sense of accomplishment. [View the skill key.](#)

SMARTGAMES LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD

Product Description

Help Little Red Riding Hood find the right path to grandma's house with this brainteaser for preschoolers. Kids can place puzzle pieces on the game board and solve challenges while they try to avoid the wolf.

AGES: 4+

MANUFACTURER: SMARTGAMES

MSRP: 26.99

Sources: <https://www.thetoyinsider.com/2017-holiday-gift-guide/> and <https://www.thetoyinsider.com/toys/smartgames-little-red-riding-hood/>

