



## BUILDING BLOCKS THERAPY'S HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE 2016

### GIFT IDEAS:

1. **Younger kids 9 mos-24 mos.** – learning to play, cause/effect, early problem solving
  - a. **Problem solving - Tobbles** – cup-shaped stacking toy; **Knob puzzles** – great for little hands! Castle Fun is a new design this year
  - b. **Cause & Effect toys** - Melissa & Doug Push & Go Cars– light weight and fast moving!
  - c. **Creative Play -B. Toys rubber blocks** – little ones love squeezing them and they're easy to stack because of their texture; **pretend mailbox** (Melissa & Doug or Playskool), **Velcro/magnetic food**, kitchen set; **farm and animal set, baby dolls.**
2. **Preschool age kids 3-4 yrs.** – **creative play expands; social skills and turn taking emerge**
  - a. **Problem Solving games: 3 Little Pigs, Trucky 3** (pretend toy evolves into visual-spatial processing activity), and **Peek-A-Boo Bunny**
  - b. **Language Enhancing** - Sequence cards, What's on my Head?, Headbandz, Tell-A-Story cards
  - c. **Old favorites for Turn-taking and social skills:** Zingo; Sneaky, Snacky Squirrel; Memory; Candyland; Hi-ho Cherry O; Chutes & Ladders; Hiss
  - d. **Pretend play:** kitchen sets, doll houses, construction sets, Legos, Magnatiles, and train sets – these toys give children the opportunity to explore, create, problem solve, and share. ***Play can be the best language enhancer!***
3. **Early school age kids 4-6 years** – **reasoning skills and story narratives grow stronger**
  - a. **Problems Solving/Creative Thinking games** – Obstacles by Eeboo; Camelot Jr, Labrynth Jr, Spot It!, Race to the Roof, Pickles to Penguins, Hiss, The Cupcake Game; What's in Ned's Head?
4. **School age kids 6+ -**
  - a. Sorry!, Guess Who?, Race to Space, **PicWits** – **matching caption to picture; great for pragmatic language**

### NEW FINDS THIS YEAR!

**Floof** – 3+ indoor fun with snow! Kit comes complete with snowball molds and snowman parts

[www.hearthsong.com](http://www.hearthsong.com)

**Design & Drill Brightworks** – 3+ fine motor fun with this chunky toy; similar to LiteBrite, but with bigger pieces

**Sprouts Camp Out set** – pretend to camp out and cook s'mores with this set! For extra creativity, build a fort or tent from sheets and furniture.

**"Change the Story" book** – 4+ have fun moving pieces around to create a new story each time!

Great for creativity and story narratives [www.discoverytoys.com](http://www.discoverytoys.com)

**Goldie Blox Build sets** – engineering/building toys designed for girls as young as 4 years!

Happy Holidays from the Building Blocks Therapy Therapists!