

Parents' Choice Award Winning Toys, Games, Books, and Music that Bridge the Classroom to the Playroom







Who We Are

Established in 1978, Parents' Choice Foundation is the nation's oldest nonprofit guide to quality children's media and toys.

- We search out and recommend products that help kids grow imaginatively, physically, morally and mentally fairly priced products that are fun, safe and socially sound.

 We advocate playful learning.

 We champion reading.

















We Believe...



We Believe...



Parents' Choice Awards

WE WERE THE FIRST. WE ARE THE MOST TRUSTED



Parents' Choice Awards® **Testing Process**



The Parents' Choice Awards* is the nation's oldest program created to recognize quality children's media and toys: books, toys, music and storytelling, magazines, software, videogames, television, websites and mobile apps.

- The Parents' Choice Awards * judges are experts in their industry and interests, from dinosaurs to digital media and from mathematics to making mayhem.
 The Parents' Choice Awards committee members hall from families across the country.
- Our product evaluation process is lengthy and comprehensive.
- It's a multi-tiered process with its roots in a four-page questionnaire that queries the product's
 developmentally appropriate content and challenges, the product's design and function, the educational
 value, long-term play value, and the benefits to a child's social and emotional growth and well being.



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Rarely do we cite packaging claims, but The Play Gym is indeed, "a whole year of play in one box." Made with sustainable wood and organic materials, not only is it safe for infants, the color scheme is appealing to all. The five development zones, each thoughtfully designed and executed, offer, encourage, and promote different sensory systems.



Click here for the full Parents' Choice review.





This cleverly designed toy of silicone bubbles built into a sturdy plastic frame is as gratifying in the bathtub as it is in a high-chair or car-seat. Made of 100% food-grade silicone, this easy to clean, no parts to lose, take anywhere toy is irresistible, captivating, and fun.

Click <u>here</u> for the full Parents' Choice review.







The colorful and "can't wait to touch" 30-piece LALABOOM bead set provides an open-ended supply of play and developmental opportunities—encouraging exploration, creativity and delightful adult-child co-play.





This easy to assemble durable plastic "grow-withme" SUV styled riding toy features space for two children, a large handle for parents, rotating wheels for easy turns, and the option to transform from a toddler push car to a manual foot-to-ground car for preschool kids.

Click here for the full Parents' Choice review.







Stacking Garden Friends Ages: 18 Months & Up Manufacturer: Tender Leaf Toys Price: \$24.99

An ecofriendly toy in materials and concept, young stewards of the environment took turns carefully placing the 14 wooden plant, garden equipment and animal shapes on the stacking tree. They quickly learned about balance, testing which shapes worked where.

Click $\underline{\text{here}}$ for the full Parents' Choice review.







Farm to Table Ages: 3 - 8 yrs. Manufacturer: KidKraft Price: \$199.99

The modern and sleek design of this play kitchen features clever details such as, window planter boxes growing "choppable" carrots and onions held together with Velcro", a stove top that lights up and makes simmering noises, a refrigerator with an ice cube maker that dispenses pretend cubes (included), a farmhouse sink, a chalkboard to create a menu, and more.

a menu, and more. Click <u>here</u> for the full Parents' Choice review.







Our Generation Awesome Academy Ages: 3 & Up Manufacturer: Maison Battat Inc Price: \$129.99

This 76-piece school room playset is designed to fit 18" dolls. With real life working accessories like a clock, a fire alarm, classroom lights and a recess bell, a chalkboard with chalk and a glow-in-the-dark whiteboard, the curriculum focuses on pretend play.

Click $\underline{\text{here}}$ for the full Parents' Choice review.







Pop-Oh-Ver Stove and Counter Top Sets Ages: 3 & Up Manufacturer: Kangaroo Manufacturing Price: \$39.99

With these ingenious slipcovers, any straight back chair can become a pretend stove or a countertop. The innovative configuration and modern design serve up pretend play from role playing to construction.

Click here for the full Parents' Choice review.







Folkmanis® Puppets Ages: 3 & Up Manufacturer: Folkmanis, Inc. Price: Starting at \$27.99

With styles ranging from the representation of a frog's life cycle, to the common opossum, to the mythical dragon and narwhal, and much, much more, Folkmanis puppets encourage storytelling, role playing, and pretend play.







Teaching young children to respect diversity and differences is important. Learning that through play in invaluable. The 48 pieces et of mix-and-match wooden magnetic play pieces designed as heads, bodies and legs lest kids (and adults) create families that look like the families they know and see.









This line of entry level science kits for kids are a great hands on introduction to concepts and topics covered in more advanced kits. With easy to follow, comprehensive instruction booklets, engaging experiments, and subjects including coding, engineering, and chemistry, there's a kit to fit any science minded kid.

Click <u>here</u> for the full Parents' Choice review.







The lightweight wooden pieces of this 157-piece heirloom quality building set are sturdy yet easily manipulated by small hands. The interesting variety of shapes, sizes, and materials allows for countless hours of building. An investment in Rigamajig is an investment in learning. The creativity, problem solving, sustained attention, collaboration and cooperation skills built by this set, deliver a big ROI from play, Click here for the full Parents' Choice review.





Games





This game playfully teaches colors, taking turns, listening, following directions, sorting, classifying, vocabulary development and social interaction. The Parent Guide adds more ways to play, learn, connect and explore—together.

Click here for the full Parents' Choice review.







With its clever premise, appealing box, and call of the wild (preschoolers that is), this quick to learn game fully engages players as they exemiessly practice identifying and recognizing colors, matching patterns, taking turns, and sharpening fine motor and visual discrimination skills.







Let's show math a little love. Tiny Polka Dot is a card deck set of 16 games to teach counting, arithmetic and logic. As examples, children ages 3 + play Hungry Numbers, a game in which players "feed" a numeral card to its corresponding dot card. Players ages 5+ can Dot Fives, when taking turns to match a pair of cards that add up to 5.

Click here for the full Parents' Choice review.







Tell-A-Tale (Barnyard Edition) Ages: 3 & Up Manufacturer: Getta1Games Price: \$16.99

Game play in this cooperative storytelling game is delightful: the roll of the dice prompts the story and the placement of the corresponding game pieces add dimension and context. The player who rolls first is the one who starts and finishes the story. Or not. There rules are few, the hours of playful learning are many.

Click <u>here</u> for the full Parents' Choice review.







Pass The Pup Ages: 3 & Up Manufacturer: PlayMonster Price: \$17.99

As the name implies, this game is a cute and cuddly take on the classic "Hot Potato" game — with a four-legged twist. The player holding the pup when the music stops must draw one of the 14 dog-themed action cards and act it out – all while learning turn taking, vocabulary and listening skills in the process.







Our young testers were immediately hooked on this colorful fishing game. From 2 - 5 players use their turn-taking, memory, matching and fine motor skills to find, catch and/or release the colorful plastic fish with retractable tails.

Click here for the full Parents' Choice review.





Puzzles





Chugga Choo is a color matching game that meets puzzle problem solving in the train yard. The object of the game is to assemble four train puzzles with an engine, three filled boxcars and a caboose—all of matching colors.







Sloths are having "a moment" right now and this suitable for hanging 100-piece poster size puzzle is a fun and thought-provoking way to get little ones in on the trend. An included booklet contains facts about sloths and their habitat.

Click here for the full Parents' Choice review.





Music





A voice of singular loveliness and one sweet, sunny song after another (with family as her celebratory theme) make this new album by Canadian folksinger/songwirter/guitarist Gina Lam-known professionally as Ginalina-an occasion to savor.







This debut album from California-based singer/songwriter Michelle Bloom, is a wind swept, semi-nostalgic look back to her own childhood, and her children's. The music reminds this listener of the heydays of 70's acoustic and electric folk.

Click here for the full Parents' Choice review.







Laura Doherty's signature folk-pop stylings and her gift for making young listeners feel that she is singing directly to and for them infuse this new album with cozy fun and notable, kid-respecting warmth.

Click <u>here</u> for the full Parents' Choice review.







Blue Skies and Sunny Days Ages: 4 & Up Artist: Frances England Producer: Frances England CD Price: \$15.00

The "blue sky, sunny day" theme of England's new release offers listeners of all ages (adults, too) a heart-happy uglift through observances of those days in childhood when everything goes right, when a parent and theil "play hooky," taking together time, and more.







Curated Parents' Choice Spotify Playlists:

Parents' Choice Audio Awards 2018 Summer "Play" list

2018 Fall Parents' Choice Audio Awards Playlist



Books





Author/illustrator Lucy Cousins offers a 24 hour challenge: be a bird, for just one day.
"Flay your wings and you can fly/higher and higher," (up, up in the sky." "Scratch the ground with your feet. Catch a fly with your beak." With calls and poses and waddles and song, every page is invitting, vibrant and filled with joy.







I Just Want to Say Goodnight Ages: 2 - 5 yrs. Author: Rachel Isadora Publisher: Penguin Putnam for Young Readers Hardcover Price: \$16.99

Via Isadora's pink and yellow palette, the lovely, evocative, loosely framed, double-page oil paintings capture the essence of the African landscape around sunset; the depictions of our young heroine aptity express her personality. Lovely and gently humorous.

Click here for the full Parents' Choice review.







Also An Octopus Also An Octopus Ages: 3 - 7 yrs. Author: Maggie Tokuda-Hall, Illustrator: Benji Davies Publisher: Candlewick Press Hardcover Price: \$16.99

First-time children's author Maggie Tokuda-Hall and veteran illustrator Benji Davies have teamed up to create this highly original, gentle charmer, a picture book for young children doubling as a guide to the art of storytelling.

Click here for the full Parents' Choice review.







In the Past: From Trilobites to Dinosaurs to Mammoths in More Than 500 Million Years Ages: 3 - 7yv. Author: David Elliott, Illustrator: Matthew Trueman Publisher Simon & Schuster Hardcover Price: \$17.99

Beginning with Trilobites from the Cambrian Period and ending with the Quaternany Period, a combination of informed, withy, and sometimes soulful poems and eye-popping, mixed media close-up views offer a feast for young paleontology enthusiasts.







Rube Goldberg's Simple Normal Humdrum School Day Ages: 5 - 7 yrs. Author: Jennifer George, Illustrator: Ed Steckley Publisher: Abrams Books for Young Readers Hardcover Price: \$17.95

Designed to make young readers laugh, each two-page spread reveals a precarious machine that clearly took Rube considerably more work to design than it would have taken him to simply get dressed and walk out the door.

Click here for the full Parents' Choice review.







Her Right Foot Ages: All Ages Author: Dave Eggers, Illustrator: Shawn Harris Publisher: Chronicle Books Hardcover Price: \$19.99

The foot in the title belongs to the Statue of Liberty, and the symbolism of that right foot, revealed at the end of this humorous, subtly thought-provoking, and visually striking picture book may well elicit a lump in the throat.

Click here for the full Parents' Choice review.







Thank you for your time!

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