

Epic Holiday Toy Recommendations

Tried and True Gifts For Children

Tickets to a game, movie, music concert or play.

Classic toys such as yoyo, kite, play cash register, kaleidoscope, dominos, dartboard, juggling balls and magic sets.

A bike and helmet, a go-kart, another ride-on toy.

Musical instruments such as xylophone, egg shakers, tamborine, wooden flute, recorder, harmonica, guitar, keyboard or drum set.

A cool battery-powered alarm clock.

Host a party for your child to go out to a special dinner/movie/activity with friends.

Personalized gifts such as a photo of your child with their friends on a personalized mug or t-shirt.

T-Shirt or cap specially ordered with a saying/logo from their favorite sports team, musical, or band.

Magazine subscription on a subject that interests your child.

A good old fashioned boom box with radio and MP3 player (without Wi-Fi and without Bluetooth).

Make a donation to a cause they care about, a local food bank, or sponsor a animal.

Do It Yourself (DIY) Kits and Theme Baskets filled with something your child is interested in sparks your child's creativity.

- *Cake decorating, baking, building a birdhouse* — you can put together a DIY kit with items from grocery or hardware stores that will spark hours of creativity.
- *Baking DIY:* specially shaped cake pan and unique cookie cutters, cookbook, baking ingredients, personalized apron, and special serving plate.
- *Birdhouse DIY:* birdseed, birdhouse kit, binoculars, and bird identification book.
- *Dinosaur DIY:* book about dinosaurs, kit for assembling a dinosaur skeleton
- *Art Basket:* colored pencils with a sharpener, specialty markers, splurge on fancy colors like gold and silver, watercolor paints and brushes, drawing paper, art sketchpad and watercolor paper
- *Paper Craft, Origami Basket:* new scissors, specialty scissors, colorful decorated paper, cardstock paper, glue, glue sticks, origami paper, origami instruction book.
- *Gardening:* gardening book, gift certificate for seeds, containers and pots, or take it a step further with a salad table or wood for raised planting bed.

Make a Photo Album with pictures of family and friends they will cherish for years to come.

Animal/Insect Identification Guides are picture books that children love pouring over to identify all kinds of animals — from dogs to spiders to birds to dinosaurs.

For Younger Children, dolls, books, puzzles and building blocks are tried and true. They love small figures to play with in a dollhouse, fire station, castle or far away land. Consider dress-up clothes or a doctor kit. Children play for hours inside a pop-up play tent, house or car. Less is more and the simpler the toy, the more the child can imagine. There's no need for a toy to have a built-in voice or Smartphone/Bluetooth connection, because children will imagine the back and forth conversation.

