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NICK JR.
Family Magazine
best TOYS
2005

The big-wish item your child's been pining for is probably the one that taps into his or her major interest, such as cars, dolls, or sports. But your shopping list most likely goes beyond one toy—no matter how perfect it is. Using your child's passion as a starting point, we show you how to pick other toys that will expand his or her skills—in the most playful way possible.

With the input of kids, parents, and experts, we've chosen ten favorites from this year's crop of new toys. For each, we've added four toys that complement the main one, yet develop such different traits as imagination, creativity, sharing, self-esteem, and

motor development. Every child learns differently, so no one toy is universally better than the others. Rather, each of these 50 winners is #1 on someone's list.

Toys Kids Really Want

"All I want is...to be a hero"

Hero play includes healthy doses of fantasy and creativity. By using the props and tools of someone he admires, a child can imagine himself in a grown-up role.



extend the fun

JR. ASTRONAUT HELMET

Practicing pilots will blast off into creative territory with this talking headpiece. Aeromax, ages 5+, \$43.95. aeromaxtoys.com