

AACS Speech –Language Pathologists Series



*Supporting the
Special Needs
Community from
birth through life*



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Holiday Toy Ideas

As you shop for your toddler, please keep in mind that simple toys help to build your child's attention span, imagination and language skills. You don't need talking electronic toys to help your child talk. The most important ingredients in the play are you and your child. Be silly, animated and have fun. Look for toys that give your child many options for play. Use simple words and phrases to talk about the play. This will help build understanding, encourage your child to imitate the actions, sounds and words that are part of the toy play and then later add their own ideas. Here are some suggestions:

Blocks (build towers, houses, trains, boats)

Mr. Potato Head (labeling body parts and clothing)



Train Set (build tracks, use action words, sound effects)

Nesting Blocks with Pictures (name the pictures, stack them, nest them, hide objects in them for child to find)

Non-Spill Bubble Tumbler (blowing, catching, popping bubbles)

Magna Doodle (take turns drawing, draw and label familiar objects)

Play Doh (use cookie cutters)

Cars (make ramps, tunnels, bridges with shoe boxes; use action words such as go, stop, up, down)

Kitchen Sets with Pretend Food (pretend to cook, serve, eat)

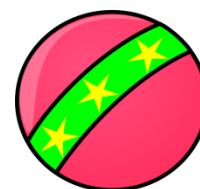
Pretend Tool Bench (pretend to fix "broken" objects)

Little People House, Farm, Garage, Noah's Ark (forgo the batteries and pretend daily activities, feed the animals, drive the cars)

Magnetic Scene Boards or Colorforms (doll house, farm, supermarket)

Chunky Wooden Puzzles (with picture under the pieces for matching, requesting/labeling each piece that goes in the puzzle)

Ball (take turns rolling, bouncing, kicking, throwing)



3075 Ridge Pike, Eagleville, PA 19403-1538

610-265-4700