Gift Guide 2010

Preschool (Gifts for a 3-Year-Old or 4-Year-Old)

Under $10

**Mamas and Babies Book and Game Set**  under $10

Share this book of sweet rhymes about baby animals and the mamas who love them, then crack open the accompanying memory match game and pair each parent with her child.


**14-piece Vegetable Set**  under $10

These fun fabric vegetables are certainly something to talk about! Tomatoes, squash, carrots, mushrooms, and more compete for play time, and may even entice kids to try the real thing at dinner.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/14-piece-vegetable-set/

**Numbers on the Go**  under $10

Learning to count doesn’t have to be a chore. This bright and colorful puzzle offers practice with numbers 1 through 9, but for kids, it will just feel like pure puzzle fun!

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/numbers-on-the-go/

**Miss Weather Dress Up Set**  under $10

The Colorforms you remember from childhood are back, but in sassy new designs.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/miss-weather-dress-up/

**Personalized Coloring Book**  under $10

Coloring is a preschool staple. But what if your kid could color a book specifically designed for her?

$11-$50

Leaf Tree Swing
This wooden swing adds a splash of color to the yard, with its bright green seat that seems ripe for a preschool pixie.


Frog/Prince Reversible Cape
Get two for the price of one with this nifty reversible number!


Eco-Friendly Work Bench
Little woodworkers can hammer in chunky “nails”, use the vice to clamp things into place, or work some magic with a screwdriver or wrench.


Richard Scarry’s Busytown
The discovery never ends with this life-size game board that’s jam-packed with bustling streets, kooky creatures, and silly scenarios.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/busytown/

My Giant Busy Box
This fun craft box provides hours of entertainment at a reasonable price.

Fold & Go Woodland Tree House
This cottage loves to travel! Decked out with a carrying handle, it’s perfect for on-the-go play, but full-featured enough to be an at-home mainstay.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/woodland-tree-house/

Eco-Friendly Handy Doctor Set
A well-made kit for any doctor-to-be, it even has a slot for your junior physician’s business card.


Splurge

Wooden Pirate Ship
True, it may cost a fair bit of gold, but this is a set to hand down from generation to generation.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/wooden-pirate-ship/

Books

Too Pickley!
Little woodworkers can hammer in chunky “nails”, use the vice to clamp things into place, or work some magic with a screwdriver or wrench.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/too-pickley/

Just One Bite
A colorful wowser of a book that will get kids talking about size, proportion, and the natural world, one bite at a time.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/bite/
Kindergarten *(Gifts for a 5-Year-Old or 6-Year-Old)*

**Under $10**

**Bears, Bears, Bears!**
Big bears, little bears, and lesser known bears come out to play in this fascinating journey around the world.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/wooden-pirate-ship/

**8 in 1 Crayon  under $10**
With eight vivid colors jam-packed into one monster crayon, this gift is perfect for your on-the-go artist.


**Skyfoil Frameless Parafoil Kite  under $10**
Wind easily fills this parafoil kite, and you’re up and flying before you know it.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/skyfoil-kite/

**Go Ape!  under $10**
Two classic games, Charades and Go Fish, come together with hilarious results in this simply fantastic little card game.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/ape/

**Make a Scene People  under $10**
Like a sticker book, but so much better, these vinyl stickers can be used and re-used over and over again.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/make-a-scene/

**Washable Kids Paint  under $10**
Love painting but hate the mess? Ditch the brushes for these hand-held marker-like dispensers.

$11-$50

**Make Your Own Monster**
This puppet, with a sleek purple body and 30 assorted ears, eyes, horns, arms, teeth, fur, and other parts, can be created again and again by swapping out his parts.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/make-monster-puppet/

**Fish Stix**
It's every fish for himself in this vibrant visual strategy game!

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/fish-stix/

**Chalkboard Briefcase**
With a dry-erase board on one side, and a chalkboard on the other, this compact little number will have your child’s stuffed animals calling her “Miss” in no time.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/chalkboard-briefcase/

**Now I’m Reading Plays: Three Little Pigs**
Everyone knows and loves the story of The Three Little Pigs, but here’s a way to breathe some new life into this classic tale.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/three-little-plays/

**Sugar and Spice Fashion Girls Around the World**
This hands-on toy takes plain old paper dolls to a whole other level.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/fashion-girls/

**Indoor/Outdoor Kids’ Croquet**
This isn’t your run of the mill croquet set. Crafted from high-quality wood, and brightly colored with a non-toxic coating, this set is built to last.

Splurge

**Diamondback 16-Inch Bike**  
Want to encourage your kid to give up the training wheels? Leave a Diamondback under the tree.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/diamondback-bike/

Books

**Two Little Boys from Too Little Toys**  
A perfect book for the younger brother or sister who's feeling a little too little, this heartfelt moral will hit home with the entire family.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/two-little-boys/

**Annie and Simon**  
A great pick for families with big age gaps between kids, but a nice read regardless, this sweet, unhurried amble though funny situations is a nice transition from picture to chapter books.


**Mary’s Penny**  
Mary’s Penny is a simple story that teaches children about the importance of imagination and following your dreams. With beautiful illustrations and warmly written words, this book will be a unique addition to your kindergartner’s library.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/marys-penny/

First Grade  
**Gifts for a 6-Year-Old or 7-Year-Old**

Under $10

**Thumball**  
A silly, hands-on way to practice key skills, and have a ball doing it.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/thumball/
Jungle Toss ‘n’ Catch  under $10  
Crocodile and hippo want to play. And these cute puppets can do more than put on a show: they can catch, too!


Make Your Own Sticker Fun: Things that Go  under $10  
Forget store-bought stickers, here’s a way to make your own! This handy sticker book provides everything a sticker-lover dreams of.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/sticker-fun-things-that-go/

Animal Hands Tattoos  under $10  
With the help of these easy-to-apply temporary tattoos, hands can become one of eight animals, from a giraffe to a bumblebee.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/animal-hands-tattoos/

Cars Building Set  under $10  
This set of 139 pieces gives kids enough to build a little filling station, two cute cars, and a squeegee for washing visiting windshields.


$11-$50

Theater Stage  
Puppets are classic kid entertainment, and this plush, easy-to-store finger puppet theater is packed with pretend play potential.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/theater-stage/

Fliflix Catch  
This colorful toss-and-catch set is fail-proof, gross-motor fun!

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/catch/
Eco-Aquarium
African dwarf frogs are easy to maintain, adorable, and fun to watch, making them great beginner pets for kids.


Order’s Up
This fun food game will have the whole family laughing and playing together as you race to see who can fill their guest check first.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/orders-up/

The Best Candy in the Whole World
You can’t beat a darn good story, and award-winning performance artist Bill Harley delivers in this collection of stories and songs.


Rabbit Stage Puppet
Puppets come in all shapes and sizes, but this furry friend is in a class of his own.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/rabbit-puppet/

Jazz Playground
If you’ve ever wanted a kid-friendly CD featuring musicians with genuine talent, then slap “Jazz Playground” in your stereo.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/jazz-playground/

Courtside Portable Basketball System
Chalk off three hours to set this hoop up, and prepare for lots of swish in your kid’s future.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/basketball-system/
Books

**Speckle the Spider**
This tap dancing spider dreams of the big time. And kids will get a big kick out of joining his adventures as they get hands-on with the goodies packed inside this book!

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/speckle-spider/

**Frankly, Frannie**
Frannie Miller, otherwise known as Frankly, wants a job badly. But it's not as easy as one might think to get hired.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/frankly-frannie/

**Cat Wings**
We're not quite sure how this classic escaped becoming a household name, but if your child is not yet familiar with it, he's in for a true treat.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/cat-wings/

Second Grade *(Gifts for a 7-Year-Old or 8-Year-Old)*

**Under $10**

**Word Shout and Game Set**  
In this simple, fast-paced game, the first person to get fifty points by shouting out words formed by the dice is the winner!

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/word-shout/

**Crazy Cheese Puzzle**  
This simple and quirky twist on a basic puzzle is the perfect way to test your problem-solving skills.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/crazy-cheese-puzzle/

**Robo Champ**  
At its core, Robo Champ is a race to build a robot in a specific color before an opponent beats you to it.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/robo-champ/
$11-$50

**Do Art Travel Easel**
Perfect for your amateur artist, this 34-piece portable art set truly takes multitasking to the next level.


**Knot-a-Quilt**
After completing this quick and easy craft project, your child will have a soft and colorful fleece blanket to cuddle up to.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/knot-a-quilt/

**Archery Set**
Set up would-be heroes with this backyard-friendly target.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/archery-set/

**The Young Magician Magic Set**
Based on a set of common illusions and tricks, the kit teaches kids how to make objects appear and disappear.

**Minotaurus**

Whether your child is a LEGO fanatic, or new to the charms of the little plastic building block, this game is virtually irresistible.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/minotaurus/

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**The Allowance Game**

Like it or not, kids this age are somewhat obsessed with money, and especially with how to get it and how to spend it.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/allowance-game/

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**Mia My Friendship Jacket**

Let your budding fashionista create her own couture with the Mia My Friendship Jacket.


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**Ice Cream Maker**

With this machine in the kitchen, ice cream, frozen yogurt, and sorbet are only twenty minutes away!

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/ice-cream-maker/

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**School! Adventures at the Harvey N. Trouble Elementary School**

Underneath all the extreme silliness is a book full of word play, giving kids a chance to tease out the secrets and puns hidden in McCullan’s text. Great for reluctant readers!

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/school-adventures-harvey-n-trouble/

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**Dear Dumb Diary: The Worst Things in Life Are Also Free**

Number 10 in the Dear Dumb Diary series, this book is an absolute pleasure to read, whether you’ve met Jamie before or not. Witty, pointed, and oh so clever, you’ll be turning page after page with a smile on your face.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/dear-dumb-diary/
**Guinea Pig Pet Shop Private Eye #1: Hamster and Cheese**

This mini comic book rings in at just 48 pages, making it digestible enough for kids still struggling with longer chapter books, and accessible enough for reluctant readers.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/guinea-pig-private-eye/

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**Third Grade** *(Gifts for an 8-Year-Old or 9-Year-Old)*

**Under $10**

**SORRY! Revenge**  
under $10

SORRY! Revenge has everything we love from the classic board game, with a dash of blackjack thrown in.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/sorry-revenge/

**Four in a Row**  
under $10

An attractive and affordable version of the classic Connect 4, this version of the strategy game is made of eco-friendly bamboo.


**Crochet Penguin Kit**  
under $10

This crochet kit gives you everything you need to make a cute little penguin.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/crochet-penguin/

**Appletters**  
under $10

A great vocabulary builder and spelling skill booster, Appletters is sure to please word game lovers young and old.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/appletters/

**Pommawonga**  
under $10

Traditionally used to teach kids how to spearfish, this Native American toy is simple, old-fashioned fun.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/pommawonga/
$11-$50

**Young Woodworker’s Project Kit**

This very cool set contains all the nails, glue, and pre-cut wooden pieces junior woodworkers need to make a toolbox, treasure chest, and small display shelf.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/young-woodworkers-project-kit/

**Super Art Studio**

With watercolors, pencils, pastels, and more packed neatly into a sleek aluminum carrying case, this 140-piece set has all the basics covered and then some.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/super-art-studio/

**Hide and Eeek!**

This simple concentration game has a cute rating that’s off-the-charts. Search the field for elephants that are higher or lower than the number on your card.


**Sensational Strawberries**

If you’re going to have a plant, make it strawberries! Quick to sprout and easy to grow, this plant kit makes for (almost) instant gratification.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/sensational-strawberries/

**Horse Drawing Studio**

Unite your kid’s love of horses with his love of drawing with this kit packed with pastels, pencils, poseable horse models, and a step-by-step drawing book.


**LEGO Ferocious Creatures**

This fresh addition to the LEGO Creator line shimmies and chomps in a new way. Build a crocodile with snapping jaws, a dinosaur, or a deep sea fish.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/lego-ferocious-creatures/
**My First Lab Ultimate Microscope**  
If you’re looking for a beginner microscope to get your kids jazzed about the natural world, but want something a bit more durable, this one’s the ticket.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/my-first-lab-ultimate-microscope/

**The Amazing World of Stuart**  
The Amazing World of Stuart is a thoroughly entertaining book that will have both kids and adults laughing from the first page.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/world-stuart/

**Edison’s Gold**  
Cool historical tidbits, secret societies, and a pulse-racing plot equal pure gold for kids ready for an adventure.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/edisons-gold/

**SE Mini 45x Microscope**  
This mini microscope is the perfect gift for a budding scientist or any curious kid! Complete with an illuminator to shed some light on observations, it has a compact carrying case so kids can take it anywhere.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/se-mini-45x-microscope/

**Magic Scratchers: 40 Tricks with Amazing Scratch-Off Surprises**  
This interactive little collection contains 40 “tricks”, in the style of a live magic show. Just follow the step-by-step directions on each page, scratch off various bits with a coin, and voilà!

**Dweebies**  
This unique card game has simple rules that translate to complex strategy, and a fun concept that will have kids coming back again and again.  

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/dweebies/

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**Air Dry Clay**  
You don’t have to be an expert at pottery to make something special with this clay curiosity kit. Making the clay is easy - all you do is add water!  

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/air-dry-clay/

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**Mille Bornes**  
French for a thousand milestones, this classic competitive card game is anything but a bore. As kids sprint to the finish line, they won’t even realize they’re building strategy skills and working on mental math!  

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/mille-bornes/

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**Peg Loom**  
This kit brings the timeless tradition of weaving to kids today, with wool yarn, sturdy thread, and a genuine hardwood loom that make the experience feel 100% authentic.  

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/peg-loom/

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**Salsa Garden**  
With hot peppers, plum tomatoes, and cilantro, this compact kit has everything you need to grow the goods for a delicious salsa.  

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/salsa-garden/

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**Fashion Studio**  
Design your own fashion line with this kit containing a light table, clothing silhouettes, and a full-color book filled with drawing tips and fun fashion facts.  

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/fashion-studio/
**Muse Magazine**
This magazine is sure to delight the artist, writer, mathematician, astronaut, and philosopher in your child.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/muse-magazine/

**Motor Mania**
This jam-packed kit contains ten cool projects all centering around motors. Make a drink stirrer, a race car, a game spinner, and more!

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/motor-mania/

**Q-bitz**
This brain-bending game can be played in three different ways, making it great for all types of kids.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/q-bitz/

**Splurge**

**Keva Contraptions Plank Set**
The building possibilities are endless with this kit that contains 200 wood planks and an idea book to set you on track. Construct tunnels, ramps, chutes, and more.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/keva-contraptions/

**Books**

**Alex and the Ironic Gentleman**
Clever from cover to cover, this adventurous novel takes the classic heroine to the next level.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/alex-ironic-gentleman/

**The Magical Misadventures of Prunella Bogthistle**
More than your average fantasy, this book stands above others of its kind with witty dialogue, interesting characters, and rich themes of acceptance and self-discovery. A swift, engaging read for boys and girls alike.

Jonathan Swift’s Gulliver

Jenkins does a superb job of repackaging Swift’s story with language that kids can understand, while preserving all the wit and imagination of the original story.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/gulliver/

Fifth Grade (Gifts for a 10-Year-Old or 11-Year-old)

Under $10

**Story Cubes** under $10

Tuck these dice into a pocket and get ready for anytime fun. Roll them, see what surfaces, then use the pictures to spur a story.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/story-cubes/

**Pocket Yam Slam** under $10

Proof that big things sometimes come in small packages, this petite game has all the play value of the original, but it’s small enough to fit in a Christmas stocking.


**Stitch-it Raccoon Keyring Kit** under $10

Create a cute key chain in the form of a raccoon, squirrel, bunny, puppy or chick: all you need are nimble fingers, a willingness to learn, and an attention-span long enough to take in detailed instructions.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/sitch-it-raccoon-keyring-kit/

**Safari Rider** under $10

Kids get an up-close and personal look at some physics, as they build a safari racer, putting the battery, motor, wheel axles, and wiring in the right place.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/safari-rider/

**Native American Bead Loom** under $10

Get a taste of the classic art of bead weaving without the expense of a professional loom with this simple kit. If you’ve got an artistic, crafty kid at home, this kit is a definite win.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/native-american-bead-loom/
Zipfy
Dump the inner tube! This lightweight, compact, made in the USA number is billed as a “freestyle mini luge.”
http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/zipfy/

10 Days in the USA
In this fun family game, players race to plane, train, or walk across the United States ... and learn geography while they’re at it!
http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/10-days-in-the-usa/

Stratego
This classic game of strategy has been around a while, but it delivers endless challenges to keep young minds fresh and coming back for more.
http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/stratego/

The Original Rummikub
With all the choices in the game closet, it’s amazing just how often this one seems to come out on top.
http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/original-rummikub/

All Natural Spa Lab
There’s plenty of learning here: not only do girls indulge in luxurious spa treatments, they also get to thinking about the science behind the beauty.
http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/spa-lab/

Erector Empire State Building
Want a building project that doubles as an industrial art piece?
Books

**Mamba Point**
Set in Liberia in the 1980’s, Mamba Point sneaks in some culture and historical references to give kids a snapshot of another world.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/mamba-point/

**The Boy Who Could Fly**
A thoughtful fantasy that takes a deeply meaningful look at what it is to be human.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/boy-fly/

**Middleworld: The Jaguar Stones Book One**
Max Murphy is kind of lazy. He likes video games, fast food, and central air conditioning.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/boy-fly/

Middle School

**Under $10**

**Brushes iPhone App**  **under $10**
This amazing application is like having a complete artist’s palette, right on your mobile phone.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/brushes-iphone-app/

**Quick to Knit Scarf Kit**  **under $10**
Perfect for your knitting novice, this all-in-one package makes scarf-making a breeze.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/quick-knit-scarf-kit/

**Yahtzee**  **under $10**
There’s no other feeling quite like it...when you roll those dice and get a Yahtzee! If you don’t already have this at home, run out and snag a copy of this timeless classic.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/yahtzee/
**Interior Design Sketch Portfolio**  
Let your child unleash her inner interior decorator with this sketch portfolio, packed with stencils, swatches, tips on color theory, and ideas for decorative details.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/interior-design-sketch-portfolio/

**20Q**  
Artificial intelligence on-the-go, this tiny gadget takes the classic guessing game to the next level.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/20q/

**$11-$50**

**Peek Poker Hold ‘Em**  
Using dice instead of cards, this creative twist on Texas Hold ‘Em takes the game of poker to another level.


**Life Stories**  
Celebration is the name of the game with Life Stories, a non-competitive board game that puts an emphasis on sharing, friendship, and personal experience.


**Breville Panini Press**  
Kids eat right when they’ve had a hand in their meal, and with this panini press your young chef can get creative in the kitchen.


**Oil Painting Set**  
This set has everything a young artist needs to become an oil painting pro, including the easel!

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/oil-painting-set/
**Faces Magazine**

This magazine brings your child up close and personal with cultures and ideas from around the globe.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/faces-magazine/

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**Felted Purse & Hat**

This felting kit makes for a fun craft project, sans knitting needles or complicated sewing patterns.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/felted-purse-hat/

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**Rapid 4**

This heirloom quality set is a pleasure to play, but shifting channels, defensive “blocking”, and interesting rules make this looker more than just a pretty face.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/rapid-4/

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**Hide and Seek**

The high-tech treasure hunting activity known as “geocaching” sets the stage for an action novel featuring a curious fourteen-year-old boy named Chase, his GPS tracking device, and the two young brothers Chase finds living in the northern Arizona mountains.


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**Book of Artrageous Projects**

The amazingly interactive and informative book is filled with hands-on projects and tons of fun facts that take art history to a whole new level.


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**Prisoners in the Palace**

Based on newly discovered information, this fine piece of historical fiction is a delight to read, full of rich details on the style, fashion, and etiquette of Victorian England.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/prisoner-palace/
High School

Under $10

**Bicycle 3-Track Cribbage Game**  
Filled with fast-paced play and tactical thinking, Cribbage is an addictively challenging game in which practice definitely makes perfect.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/bicycle-3-track-cribbage-game/

**Hipstamatic iPhone App**  
Recreate the analog beauty of the old days with a selection of lenses, film, and flashes with this vintage-inspired app for your iPhone.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/hipstamatic-iphone-app/

**Crayola Oil Pastels Portfolio Series (24-pack)**  
Somewhere between an oil paint and a crayon, these portfolio pastels are the perfect set for anyone from a budding artist to a seasoned pro, made as only Crayola could make them.


**Five Crowns**  
Complete with instructions for solo play and group play, Five Crowns is a fun card game of strategy and sequence that will have teens playing deep into the night.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/crowns/

**Password**  
Can’t get enough re-runs of Password on the Gameshow Network? Play it at home with your friends and family!

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/password/
Race for the White House
Electoral excitement comes but once in a while, but with Race for the White House, you can experience the nail-biting election process anytime!

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/race-for-the-white-house/

Scotland Yard
Elusive thief Mr. X is on the run through the streets of London, and it’s up to you to stop him in this intensely fun catch-a-thief board game.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/scotland-yard/

Civilization V
Build the greatest civilization known to man and become Ruler of the World in this long-awaited installment in the Civilization universe.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/civilization-v/

Sushi Making Kit
A perfect sushi starter set for anyone from the kitchen klutz to the practiced pro. With this kit you can make scrumptious sushi right in your own home.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/sushi-making-kit/

Old School Monitor Stereo Headphones
Rock out with these retro ‘phones, and you’ll be enjoying your music in high style.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/headphones/

Konexi
This three-dimensional word-building game will have your teen defying gravity while playing the wordsmith.

http://www.education.com/gift-guide/item/konexi/
Books

**Matched**

Complex characters and a gripping plot make this a step above *Twilight*, but just as addictive. Don’t give this one to your kid on a school night because he’s guaranteed to stay up into the wee hours racing to the end.


**Flash**

Perfect for the boy reluctant reader looking for something to spark his interest, *Flash* is a roller coaster ride of a read that will have you turning pages non-stop ‘til the very end.


**The Eternal Ones**

A cross between *The Time Traveler’s Wife* and *Love in the Time of Cholera*, *The Eternal Ones* is beautifully written and mysteriously addicting. A magnetic read for teens and young adults looking for a larger than life book to set their imaginations ablaze.