From toys that stand the test of time to board games that are anything but boring, we found the best middle school products that will build your child’s brain, as well as being chock full of fun. Our list of loot is kid-tested, teacher approved, and full of options for any family, so get wrappin’!

**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** under $10
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** under $10
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/
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**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!


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

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/

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/

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.


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.


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/
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/