

# Educators' Picks

Great Gift Ideas!

**Learning starts with play!** Stepping Stones educators have selected toys that promote learning and fun. All toys are available in the museum store, *Age of Reason*.

## Birth – 18 months

### Click & Play Triangles \$9

**Educator Milen**

**Children** Calling all teethingers! Experience bright colors, various materials, textures and sounds.

**Parents** It is a simple, inexpensive toy and great for travel.

### Hide 'N Seek, Carton of Eggs & Chicks \$11

**Educator Ginger**

**Children** Colorful and cute chicks. Babies enjoy hiding, finding and matching.

**Parents** You can't find these in the grocery store! Perfect for peek-a-boo activities, learning colors, matching and hand-eye coordination.

### iPlay Playful Pals Piano \$29

**Educator Sabrina**

**Children** Babies love experimenting with noise. They can play freestyle or let the piano play songs.

**Parents** Songs are upbeat, not annoying!

## Ages 2 – 3

### Kumon Flash Cards \$9.95

**Educator Milen**

**Children** Write and wipe! Erasable markers make it easy to write over and over. A fun way to learn letters.

**Parents** Teach your child writing and spelling. Put the cards together and create small words.

### Alex Colors & Shapes Touch & Feel Cards \$10

**Educator Sabrina**

**Children** Toddlers love learning new words, especially with pictures! Touch textures, see colors and learn shapes.

**Parents** Interactive way to inspire further exploration.



### Melissa & Doug Beginner Pattern Blocks \$20

**Educator Stephanie**

**Children** Fun, colorful and easy to use. Great introduction to puzzle play!

**Parents** Develops hand-eye coordination, problem solving and shape recognition. Also comes in a wooden carrying case.

## Age 3 – 4 Years

### Kid Journey Pop Puppets \$4

**Educator Didi**

**Children** Whimsical imagination sparkers. Children will love putting on a show!

**Parents** Inspires creative play and storytelling. Develops coordination and perfect for both independent and group play.



### Band in a Box \$20

**Educator Shari**

**Children** Start a parade or create songs with ten different instruments.

**Parents** Introduce children to musical instruments and the sounds they make. Easy storage in wooden case and quality instruments that will last.

### Tubation-Tubular Construction \$20

**Educator Milen**

**Children** Build an infinite number of structures! Design a musical instrument, a telescope or use marbles to create a mini color coaster.

**Parents** This toy encourages creativity. More than one child can play at the same time. Parents can use this toy to teach their children about sizes, shapes and length.

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## Ages 5 – 8

**Magnetic Poetry Kids** \$16  
**Educator Stephanie**

**Children** Make silly sentences and play at the fridge.

**Parents** Children will learn new vocabulary and practice sentence structure and reading. Leave messages for each other! Great for travel or classrooms too.

**Mimi the Sardine Eco-coated Apron** \$19 Eco-friendly!  
**Educator Didi**

**Children** Bright and fun patterns that kids will love. Great for baking too!

**Parents** Water resistant for artistic messes. Environmentally friendly and certified coating allows fabric to be wiped clean or machine-washed.

**Live Butterfly Garden** \$22  
**Educator Emily**

**Children** Children love bugs! See first hand how a caterpillar goes through its life cycle and transforms into a butterfly.

**Parents** Very easy to use and maintain, instructions and supplies all included. Teaches responsibility and caring for a living creature.

## Ages 9 – 12

**Jishaku Magnetic Power Game** \$21  
**Educator Ginger**

**Children** Who doesn't like magnets? Learn about science while playing this magnetic action game.

**Parents** Encourages family participation, lessons in strategy and magnetic field science. Simple pieces with minimal setup time.



**Spin & Trap** \$25  
**Educator Patricia**

**Children** Rotating marble game of offensive and defensive strategy. Fast-paced and great for play with a friend. Perfect for puzzle-lovers!

**Parents** Encourages teamwork and spatial logic. Easy cleanup and perfect for a rainy day. Grown-ups can play too!



## All Ages

**Pop Toobs** \$1.50  
**Educator Milen**

Try & Play  
in the  
Resource  
Center

**Children** Make silly sounds as you squish and expand! Connect and create with as many Toobs as you can; the possibilities are endless.

**Parents** Easy to manipulate for any age 3 and up and inspires innovation. Buy Toobs individually. Makes a great stocking stuffer!



**Mimi the Sardine Eco-coated Lunch Bag** \$20  
**Educator Emily**

**Children** Super colorful and fun to take anywhere.

**Parents** For the green parent! These cloth lunch bags are made of safety-tested acrylic coated fabrics in a variety of fun patterns that are eco-friendly. Machine washable and 100% lead free. Teach children to reduce their impact on the earth.

Eco-friendly!

**Kapla Blocks (200 piece)** \$68  
**Educator Shari**

**Children** Build tall towers with simple wooden blocks and let the imagination soar!

**Parents** Practice hand-eye coordination, balance, creativity and patience. Free lifetime replacement by the manufacturer.