




# Toys by category from age 1


TOY REPORT 2012


<p>★★★★</p> <p>12 mos - 5 yrs</p>	<p><b>REVERSIBLE LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD</b></p> <p>86158</p>	<p>Three dolls in one, this reversible Little Red Riding Hood transforms to Granny with a simple flip of the skirt, and the Big Bad Wolf appears when Granny's cap is pulled over her head. The doll is well-designed and beautifully constructed. The three-in-one aspect is unique, and all the details of the fairy tale are illustrated on the doll's clothing. It's a great story-telling prop, and children enjoy playing with it.</p>
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## Developmental Toys

<p>★★★</p> <p>12 - 24 mos</p>	<p><b>2-IN-1 DISCOVERY TABLE</b></p> <p>VTECH ELECTRONICS CANADA LTD. 80-123400</p>	<p>This innovative electronic learning toy adapts to the child, depending on the type of activity she or he is interested in. Little artists can doodle at the drawing desk, budding musicians can play songs, and those eager to learn can study colours, numbers and shapes or try counting activities. The sturdy plastic activity table rotates from drawing side to interactive learning side. The toy is fairly basic. Colours are nice and sounds are good, and the musical aspect is engaging. Requires two "AA" batteries.</p>
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<p>★★★★</p> <p>12 mos - 3 yrs</p>	<p><b>2-IN-1 WAGON RIDER</b></p> <p>FISHER-PRICE CANADA INC. V9465</p>		<p>A two-in-one concept, the Wagon Rider can be a ride-on toy for indoor or outdoor use, or it can be a wagon for pulling toys, teddies and dolls. In bright primary colours, this 45-centimetre-long toy has a bright smiley face on the pull handle, as well as buttons to activate lights and cool sounds. Little ones can easily convert the toy from rider to wagon by lifting the "seat," which then becomes a handle for pulling. This toy develops motor skills. Requires three "AA" batteries.</p>
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<p>★★★★</p> <p>18 mos - 3 yrs</p>	<p><b>CARE &amp; LEARN TEDDY</b></p> <p>VTECH ELECTRONICS CANADA LTD. 80-123200</p>		<p>Time to give Teddy a check-up! This happy, loveable electronic patient comes with a stethoscope, an ear thermometer and a bandage. He's well prepared for a young child to check him out and fix him up. Touch the "hot spot" on his heart, his ears, his hands or his feet to activate sounds and phrases. Care &amp; Learn Teddy is cute, durable and interactive. He helps youngsters learn body parts, teaches them how to care for something, and provides an introduction to doctor visits. Requires two "AA" batteries.</p>
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<p>★★★★</p> <p>12 mos - 3 yrs</p>	<p><b>CATCH ME KITTY</b></p> <p>VTECH ELECTRONICS CANADA LTD. 80-1232900</p>		<p>This little orange kitten is an electronic learning toy for baby. As it scoots across the floor, the kitten encourages the child to chase. Sensors pick up the child's proximity, and the kitty reacts with motion, sounds and nursery rhymes. One-two-three buttons in brightly coloured shapes help the young child develop motor skills while being entertained with educational material. It is very durable, encourages movement, and works better on wood floors than on thick carpet or on tile. Requires four "AA" batteries.</p>
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<p>★★★★</p> <p>12 mos - 3 yrs</p> 	<p><b>LETTERS SAURUS</b></p> <p>LEAPFROG</p> <p>811484</p>		<p>D is for dinosaur. There's nothing like having a dinosaur – a brontosaurus in this case – to teach the ABCs to your child. This purple and green educational toy helps little learners explore the names and sounds of letters, colours and popular tunes. The dino is cute and colourful, its voice is clear and appealing, and it has volume control. You can program in the first letter of your child's name. Requires two "AA" batteries (included).</p>
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## Developmental Toys

<p>★ 18 - yrs</p>	<p><b>ROCKIN' SOUNDS DRUM</b> MANHATTAN TOY COMPANY 145170</p>	<p>A drum for babies! This plush musical toy features drumbeats, as well as a voice that teaches numbers and colours. Five circles on the top of the drum feature numbers and colours for learning. A button in the middle of the toy lets you change the sound category. The sound device can be turned on and off. The buttons require multiple pushes to operate, but the toy can be used in other ways than intended. Requires three "AAA" batteries.</p>
<p>★ 18 - yrs</p>	<p><b>ROCKIN' SOUNDS GUITAR</b> MANHATTAN TOY COMPANY 211130</p>	<p>Jammin' for babies! This toy guitar teaches sounds, colours and music. The guitar features numbered keys that play musical notes and say the number or colour of each key when it is touched. The sound category can be changed by pushing a button. The keys are sensitive, the colours are bright, and the toy is small, light and soft enough for a young child. Parents say the voice is a monotone and the toy does not function much like a guitar. Requires three "AAA" batteries.</p>
<p>★★★★ 18 - 24 mos</p>	<p><b>SESAME STREET PLAYSET</b> HASBRO CANADA INC. C-082A</p>	<p>What's more fun than Sesame Street? This set includes major icons of the TV show's neighbourhood: Mr. Hooper's store, 123 Stoop, Big Bird's nest, and even Oscar's trash can. The set includes Elmo and Cookie Monster figures and a sidewalk for the characters to walk on. Youngsters learn the concepts of up and down, left and right, and in and out, as well as letters. The set stimulates young imaginations, provides good play, and is a good size for young toddlers.</p>
<p>★★★★ 18 mos - 3 yrs</p> 	<p><b>SHAPES &amp; SHARING PICNIC BASKET</b> LEAP FROG 19171</p>	<p>This toy encourages children to learn about shapes and colours, as well as manners. Pretend "picnic-for-two" play also develops motor skills. The 14-piece set includes a plastic picnic basket, blanket, plates, forks, cups and six food items (cookie, sandwich, cracker and cheese, slices of watermelon, orange and pie). Lift the lid on the personalized basket to hear instrumental music, as well as catchy songs about picnics, manners or colours and shapes. The toy has multiple play options, is visually appealing, and is well constructed. Requires two "AA" batteries.</p> 
<p>★★ 18 mos - 3 yrs</p>	<p><b>SMART FRIENDS BOWLING</b> VTECH ELECTRONICS CANADA LTD. 80-124500</p>	<p>This innovative educational bowling set will entice toddlers to roll the colourful ball towards the five animal-themed bowling pins. As the pins fall, they teach counting, numbers, animals and more. "Bumpers" keep the ball on track, and flashing buttons keep score. The set is attractive and well-designed, the music is good, and the automatic shutoff feature is convenient. It is easy to assemble and functions well, and it teaches toddlers to roll, rather than throw, a ball. Requires two "AA" batteries (included).</p>
<p>★★★★ 12 mos - 3 yrs</p> 	<p><b>SUV OR FRONT LOADER BUILD 'N DRIVE</b> FISHER-PRICE CANADA INC. V4345/4346</p>	<p>Children build their imaginations with these Little People Build 'n Drive toys. The front loader is orange and yellow, and the SUV is pink and blue. Each comes with several blocks and a Little People figure. The SUV toy includes a surfboard; the front loader has a road sign. The roof of the SUV opens on hinges, the front loader's scoop pivots up and down, and all pieces can be stored in the backs of the vehicles. The design is simple; the toys have big tires for easy pushing, can be incorporated with other toys, and can also be taken outdoors.</p>

## Developmental Toys

<p>★★</p> <p>12 - 18 mos</p>	<p><b>TUG &amp; TEACH SAILBOAT</b> VTECH ELECTRONICS CANADA LTD. 80-119000</p>	<p>Rub-a-dub-dub, a singing sailboat in the tub. Bathing babies can make up their own imaginative adventures with this waterproof Tug &amp; Teach Sailboat. The hippo boat captain and the cheerful tow-along dolphin teach animal names, sounds and shapes. Pull the dolphin and it will wind itself back to the sailboat. This is a simple toy for very young babies, is bright and colourful for bath play, and stimulates developing imaginations. Requires two “AAA” batteries.</p>
<p>★★★★</p> <p>12 mos - 4 yrs</p>	<p><b>XYLOPHONE ZOO</b> LEAP FROG 19181</p>	<p>The Xylophone Zoo, a 15-inch plastic xylophone with seven rainbow-coloured metal keys, makes music fun for toddlers. Animal sounds engage youngsters as they follow the lights to play a song, repeat musical sequences, or express their own inner maestro. It's easy to transport and durable, and it has volume control. It's a fun toy that grows with the child and teaches hand-eye coordination. NOTE: English and Spanish only, no French. Requires three “AA” batteries (included).</p>



## Educational Toys

<p>★★★★</p> <p>18 mos - 3 yrs</p>	<p><b>COUNT 'N CRUNCH COOKIE MONSTER</b> PLAYSKOOL 32451</p>	<p>Cookie Monster loves, well, cookies! This popular, soft, little blue furry creature comes with three of his own cookies – for counting – and a backpack. He counts his three cookies and sings a fun song about counting cookies. Tickle his foot to make him giggle and squirm. This toy helps young children practise their counting skills and teaches them manners, and the “voice” is easy to understand. Volume control is good. Requires four “AA” batteries.</p>
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## Imaginative Play


<p>★★★★</p> <p>18 mos - 5 yrs</p>	<p><b>ANIMAL SOUNDS ZOO (LITTLE PEOPLE)</b> FISHER-PRICE CANADA INC. W1710</p>	<p>***Best Bet Award 2012*** This zoo play set includes Zack the zookeeper, a gorilla, a lion and a polar bear. When you place one of the animals in the hut, it makes the appropriate animal sound and says its name. Additional Zoo Talkers (animals) are available separately. A waterslide, a cave and a swing offer the child fun play time. It has a great design and encourages play among several children of different ages. Requires three “AA” batteries.</p>
<p>★★</p> <p>21.6 - yrs</p>	<p><b>FOLD 'N GO TUMBLE TOWER</b> TONKA CANADA INC. 28667</p>	<p>This portable play set has a tower, an elevator to lift vehicles to the top of the tower, and a series of stunt ramps that flip down as the vehicle drives down the tower. The set comes with instructions, a dump truck called Chuck, and a little garage to park the dump truck in. A handle at the top of the play set makes it easy to carry. Other vehicles, available separately, also work with the set. This toy is easy to store and carry, simple to assemble, and makes fun sounds. Requires two “AA” batteries.</p>
<p>★★★★</p> <p>12 - yrs</p>	<p><b>ROCK 'N WOBBLE PLAYGROUND</b> HASBRO CANADA INC. 28842</p>	<p>Weebles can spin, wobble, swing and slide on this simple playground. Toddlers can make the one figure that comes with the play set cross a wobbling bridge by pressing a lever, or they can activate a spinner when the character goes down the slide. It's a safe and colourful toy for young toddlers, it's easy to carry, and the Weebles figure is fun. Play will help develop a child's fine motor skills and imagination.</p>



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## Imaginative Play


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★★★★ 12 - yrs	<b>WEEBLES TURN 'N TUMBLE HOME</b> PLAYSKOOL 29743	 <b>Energizer</b>	Two Weebles – a mom and a dad – tumble and spin in this playhouse, which also comes with a play car. The figures can ride in the car or shoot down a slide. Fun music plays while children create their own adventures. The toy stimulates the imagination as well as motor skills. The stability of the play set, the bright colours and the design make this toy popular with one- and two-year-olds. Requires two “AA” batteries (included).
★★★★ 18 mos - 3.5 yr	<b>WHEELIES PLAY 'N GO CONSTRUCTION SITE</b> FISHER-PRICE CANADA INC. V2740		***Best Bet Award 2012*** This Little People construction set has a yellow bulldozer with a driver, two mountain pieces, a removable sign with a gate, three colourful ramps, and a black boulder to engage youngsters in imaginative play. It's a sturdy, well-designed toy that doesn't take up much space, has lots of play value, and stores neatly away in one of the mountain pieces. Children can play with the pieces in a variety of ways and also incorporate it with other toys.

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## Ride-on Toys & Wagons

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★★★★ 18 mos - 3 yrs	<b>PLAY 'N SCOOT PIRATE SHIP</b> LITTLE TIKES COMPANY 622113M	 <b>Energizer</b>	***Children's Choice Award 2012*** An original ride-on vehicle for toddlers, it's a pirate ship and more! Turn the mast to steer the wheels or lift up the seat to reveal the hold, which contains two cute pirate figures and a cannon. Children love the sound effects (cannon, foghorn, bell and dropping anchor), activated by pushing a button on the mast. The seat provides a great storage compartment for little toys, and the theme inspires hours of imaginative play for the growing child. Requires two “AA” batteries.
★★★ 12 - yrs	<b>POPPIN' PARK BOUNCE &amp; RIDE</b> PLAYSKOOL 31937		Great for the squirmy child, this yellow and red ride-on “car” is a good toy for a toddler's physical development. The child can sit on the seat and scoot along with both feet, or keep the toy stationary and bounce up and down on the red ball under the seat, which activates exciting music and sound effects that encourage the child to be active. A kickstand unlocks the wheels. The “car” comes with an air pump and needle and instructions. A fun swinging monkey hangs from the handlebars. Requires two “AA” batteries (included).
★★★ 12 mos - 3 yrs	<b>SPORTS COUPE (LITTLE TIKES)</b> LITTLE TIKES COMPANY 622090M		Designed with toddlers in mind, this little red ride-on “sports coupe” has a horn that really works and a steering wheel that controls the front wheels. The treaded tires have sporty rims, and the car has headlight and brake-light decals. It's a good size for the smaller toddler and is durable. It can be ridden indoors or outside. NOTE: This toy may be too small for tall toddlers.

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## Wheel Toys

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★★★★ 18 mos - 5 yrs	<b>WHEELIES-ZIG THE BIG RIG</b> FISHER-PRICE CANADA INC. W1461	 <b>Energizer</b>	Rev 'em and roll 'em, that's what Zig would say! This cute, expressive, talking truck in appealing primary colours “comes to life” for youngsters. It's an attractive and very durable toy and has a launching feature that allows children to load Wheelies vehicles into built-in slots (fits six vehicles, but includes only one), then press the truck's roof to release the Wheelies. It's easy to activate the talking, sound and light features. It's safe for young children, though it may be a little large and heavy for some. NOTE: The truck speaks English only and requires three C batteries.
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A good choice for a birthday gift, rated at \*\*\* and priced under \$25



A good choice for a travel toy, rated at \*\*\* and compact



A battery operated toy, rated \*\*\*