



# Speech and Language Toy, Book, and Activity List 2021



*Compiled by the South Shore Therapies Speech Staff*

Children learn language naturally through play and active exploration. A wide variety of toys and games encourage learning and help to develop skills in understanding language, oral expression, and social language use. The following suggestions will be helpful in choosing appropriate toys to target various language skills while keeping your child engaged. Approximate ages and skill levels have been provided to help guide your choices. Many items can be purchased at toy stores or through catalogues and websites such as Amazon. Ask your speech therapist for help in deciding which games or toys are recommended for your child.

## Toys & Games to Develop Speech and Language Skills

### **Infant Toys (promote receptive vocab, cause-effect, sorting, turn taking)**

- Fisher Price Enchanted Friends Learning Table
- Fisher Price Hide and Peek Pop-Up
- Fisher Price Baby's First Blocks and Rock-a-Stack
- Laugh and Learn Crawl Around Car
- Laugh and Learn Smart Learning Home
- Laugh and Learn Piggy Bank
- Laugh and Learn Learning Kitchen
- Little Tikes Giggle Surprise Blocks
- Fat Brain Toys Pip Squigz Loops (mouthing toy)
- Fat Brain Toys Tobbles Neo
- Fat Brain Toys Oombee Cube
- Fat Brain Toys Forest Friends Discovery Tree

## Toddler Toys

- Play Dough (creative play, language concepts –colors, size, action words, social language)
- Baby Doll (pretend play, vocabulary, social skills)
- LUKAT Pull Back Car Toys (pretend play, vocab, turn taking)
- Puzzles (vocab, early language concepts)
- Fat Brain Toys Zoom 'n Vroom Ladder Launch Crane (pretend play, vocab)
- Fat Brain Toys RollAgain Tower
- Fat Brain Toys Woodland Friends Stacking Cubes (vocabulary, early language concepts, turn taking)
- Fisher Price First Builders Big Building Bag (creative play, early language concepts, social skills)
- Fisher Price Little People Caring For Animals Farm (creative play, vocabulary, social skills)
- Fisher Price Little People Big Yellow School Bus (creative play, vocabulary, social skills)
- Pet Vet Clinic (creative play, vocabulary, social skills)

## Preschool Toys/Games and Skills Promoted

### Pretend Play (various skills including vocabulary, following directions, social language)

#### *Melissa and Doug:*

- play food sets
- Fresh Mart Grocery Store
- Chef's Kitchen
- Nail Care Play
- Feed and Groom Horse Care Playset
- Star Diner Restaurant

For additional ideas please visit <https://www.melissaanddoug.com/gift-guide/gift-guide-3-4-years>

#### *Fisher Price:*

- Medical Kit
- Laugh & Learn Servin' Up Fun Food
- Laugh & Learn Grow-the-Fun Garden to Kitchen
- Light Up Learning Vacuum

For additional ideas please visit <https://www.fisher-price.com>

#### *Little Tikes*

- First Washer Dryer Play Set
- Pizza Restaurant
- First Bathroom Sink
- My First Pet Checkup Set
- First Self-Checkout Stand

For additional ideas please visit <https://www.littletikes.com>

## Toys

- Magnetic Building Set - Magnatiles (problem solving, creative play, matching)
- Melissa and Doug Reusable Sticker Books (pretend play, following directions, length of utterance)
- Little Live Pets (pretend play, problem solving, receptive and expressive language)
- Squeakee the Balloon Dog (responds to vocal output, expressive language, cause-effect)
- TEMI Construction Truck Toys (vocabulary, pretend play, following directions)
- Melissa and Doug Construction Set in a Box (vocabulary, pretend play, social skills)
- Brain Flakes Interlocking Disc Set (problem solving, social skills, pretend play)
- Lego Sets (problem solving, creative play, matching, social skills)
- Mr. Potato Head (vocabulary, following directions)
- Little People Launch and Loop Raceway (social skills, following directions, vocabulary, creative play)
- YEZI Car Adventure Toys, City Rescue Preschool Educational Toy Vehicle (pretend play, problem solving, executive functioning, vocabulary)

## Games (promotes various skills including social communication, following directions, vocabulary, expressive language, executive functioning)

- Disney Princess Enchanted Cupcake Party Game
- Educational Insights
  - Shelby's Snack Game
  - Sneaky Snacky Squirrel
  - Frankie's Food Truck Fiasco
  - Raccoon Rumpus
- Feed the Woozle
- Go Away Monster
- Zingo
- Eye Found It
- Greedy Granny
- Uno

## School-Age Games/Activities and Skills Promoted

- Snap Circuits Jr. (Following Directions, Critical Thinking, Executive Functioning)
- Tinkering Labs Electric Motors Catalyst STEM Kit (Following Directions, Critical Thinking, Executive Functioning)
- Dog Crimes Logic Game (social skills, problem solving, inferencing)
- Guess Who? Board Game, Asking/Answering Questions, Describing, Inferences
- Spot It! (vocabulary, word retrieval, articulation)
- Emojinks (attention, emotions, memory)
- Word on the Street Jr., (vocabulary, critical Thinking)
- Headbandz (vocabulary, asking/answering questions, describing)
- Rainbow Sandland Activity (executive functioning, following directions, creative play)
- Outfoxed, Inferencing, Memory, Executive Functioning (planning, organizing, working memory)
- Peaceable Kingdom Gnomes at Night (cooperative play, describing, asking questions, problem solving)
- Apples to Apples Jr., (vocabulary, parts of speech, describing, turn taking, perspective)
- Power and Play Motorized Building Kit (executive functioning, creative play, following directions)
- Frozen Science Kit (executive functioning, following directions, problem solving)
- Zingo Sight Words (literacy, turn taking, vocabulary, working memory)
- Zingo Word Builder (literacy, turn taking, phonological awareness)

## Adolescent Games/Activities and Skills Promoted

- Hearing Things (language processing, inferencing, social skills)
- Gravity Maze (executive function, problem solving)
- Scattergories (vocabulary, word retrieval, executive function, categorization)
- Balderdash (vocabulary, social skills, inferencing, problem solving)
- Catch Phrase (vocabulary, word retrieval, critical thinking)
- Word a Round (vocabulary, word retrieval, critical thinking)
- Double Ditto (critical thinking, inferencing)
- Pictionary (vocabulary, word retrieval, describing)
- Don't Say It (vocabulary, inferencing, describing, executive function)
- Anomia (working memory, critical thinking, vocabulary)
- 5 Second Rule (vocabulary, categories, describing)
- Snap Circuits (executive function, following directions, critical thinking)
- Robot Rumble STEM Building Toy (executive function, following directions, social skills, critical thinking)
- Escape Room in a Box (problem solving, social skills, critical thinking, executive function)
- You Know Game (social skills, empathy, self-esteem, building relationships)
- Mad Smartz (emotional regulation, executive function, social skills)

## Subscription Services for All Ages – Promote a wide variety of language skills!

Kiwi Co. – activity crates that can be individualized for your child’s needs and interests

<https://www.kiwico.com>

Little Passports – activities that celebrate cultures with globally inspired stories, activities, and experiences

<https://www.littlepassports.com>

Fat Brain Toys Surprise Ride – surprise project sent each month

[https://www.fatbraintoy.com/toy\\_companies/fat\\_brain\\_toys/surprise\\_ride\\_subscription\\_activity\\_box.cfm?country=US&source=google\\_pla&kwid=FB323-3&gclid=Cj0KCQiAzMGNBhCyARIsANpUkzNiRC588DfHRrypvtWVViAusFjRaOar2-l2-ep7aQK2DQ9YMcaOZgaAqAEEALw\\_wcB](https://www.fatbraintoy.com/toy_companies/fat_brain_toys/surprise_ride_subscription_activity_box.cfm?country=US&source=google_pla&kwid=FB323-3&gclid=Cj0KCQiAzMGNBhCyARIsANpUkzNiRC588DfHRrypvtWVViAusFjRaOar2-l2-ep7aQK2DQ9YMcaOZgaAqAEEALw_wcB)

Mel Science Kits – science subscription for kids that includes hands on projects and e-learning

<https://melscience.com/US-en/>

The Week Junior Magazine – full of fascinating news and activities for kids from around the world.

Designed and written to help all readers love reading

[https://theweekjunior.com/subscription?channel=paidsearch&gclid=Cj0KCQiAzMGNBhCyARIsANpUkzM57604HZ98oTmjP\\_ob7UgDbKLY-T2rF1hRYmxCCF0ajb451RZ-fhYaAq30EALw\\_wcB](https://theweekjunior.com/subscription?channel=paidsearch&gclid=Cj0KCQiAzMGNBhCyARIsANpUkzM57604HZ98oTmjP_ob7UgDbKLY-T2rF1hRYmxCCF0ajb451RZ-fhYaAq30EALw_wcB)

## Here are some of our favorite books and authors for young children:

### Interactive Story Books

My Busy Books (Disney, Nickelodeon, Pixar)

#### Usborne

Pull-back Busy Helicopter Book

Pull-back Busy Car Book

Pull-Back Busy Train Book

Secrets of the Apple Tree (A Shine a Light story book)

Secrets of the Seashore (A Shine a Light story book)

On the Construction Site (A Shine a Light story book)

Baby’s First Very Touch-Feely Farm PlayBook

### Infant/Toddler

-Never Touch A . . . . series (Never Touch a Spider, Never Touch a Shark Touch and Feel)

-Touch and Feel Books

-Lift a Flap Books

-Leslie Petricelli books (Nighty Night, Tubby, Potty, etc.)

## Toddler/Preschool

Eric Carle Books, (Brown Bear Brown Bear What Do You See?, etc.)  
Leslie Patricelli Books, (Yummy Yucky, etc.)  
Jez Alborough Books, (Where's My Teddy?, etc.)  
Mo Willems, (Don't Let The Pigeon series; Elephant and Piggy series)  
Sandra Boynton, (Moo Baa La La La, etc.)  
Anna Dewdney, (Llama Llama series)  
Nancy Shaw, (Sheep In a Jeep, etc.)  
Rosie Greening, (Never Touch A... Monster, Dragon, Shark, etc. series)  
How To Catch A . . . . . series (How to Catch a Mermaid, How to Catch a Snowman, etc.)

## Early School-Age

Robert Munsch (Mud Puddle, Pigs, etc.)  
Laura Numeroff (If You Give a Mouse series)  
Jane O'Connor (Fancy Nancy series)  
Mercer Mayer (Little Creature series)  
Eric Litwin (Pete the Cat)  
Choose Your Own Adventure Books

## School-Age

Barbara Park (Junie B. Jones series)  
Peggy Parish (Amelia Bedelia series)  
Suzy Kline (Horrible Harry)  
Dan Gutman (My Weirdest School series)  
Mary Pope Osbourne (Magic Tree House series)

*Many toys can be purchased through local toy stores such as Rock, Paper, Scissors (Duxbury), The Toy Box (Hanover), Harbor Light Toy Company (Scituate), Buttonwood Books and Toys (Cohasset), The Village Toy Shop (Canton) and Henry Bear's Park (Dedham). Online sites such as Amazon.com carry most of these items as well.*