

# HOLIDAY GIFT IDEAS

## Watch For These Great Video Games For The Whole Family

(NAPSA)—Finding a fun way to say Happy Holidays to the youngsters on your list can seem more like child's play if you heed a few hints.

1. First, remember toys should be fun. Get a toy the child can enjoy right away, not one he or she will grow into. A toy that's too advanced can frustrate a child. Toys should help the child learn about himself and the world around him while enhancing his self-confidence, social skills, creativity or physical abilities.

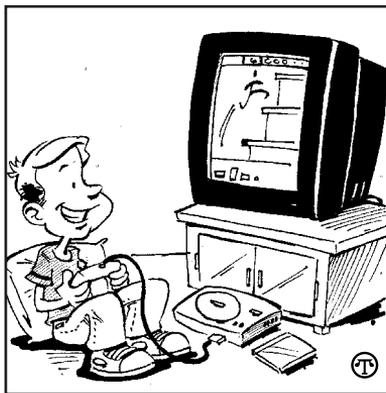
2. Next, be sure the toy is safe. Read the packaging to learn the age range for which the toy is intended, how to use the toy, and whether an adult needs to supervise or participate.

3. Consider the child's special interests and abilities, even if they go against expected gender or other roles.

4. Any electrical toys should carry the UL (Underwriters Laboratories) seal of approval. Include the proper number and size of batteries with a toy that needs them.

5. Look for non-toxic paint, smooth edges and parts that cannot be pulled off and swallowed.

6. Consider games the whole family can enjoy. A number of new interactive games for PCs, Playstation and/or Game Boy Advance are available that feature characters children love and parents trust. These nonviolent, educational and enjoyable games are rated E for Everyone. They include:



**Give youngsters the gift of creative play that helps develop ingenuity with a number of exciting new games.**

• *SpongeBob SquarePants Operation Krabby Patty*, for PC. One of the most popular cartoons for the 2 to 11 set, SpongeBob SquarePants and his undersea companions have four different adventures in this game.

• *SpongeBob SquarePants Supersponge* can be played on Playstation and Game Boy Advance. It includes superheros Mermaid Man and Barnacle Boy from the TV show.

• *Rugrats All Growned Up* for PC. The top kids' TV show for four years in a row, *Rugrats*, can now be enjoyed in the form of a game by children 6 to 12. It features Tommy, Chucky, Angelica and the rest of the gang transformed into pre-teens by a time machine, loosely based on the 10th anniversary

TV special.

• *Rugrats Castle Capers* for Game Boy Advance has six levels and features classic fairy-tales with a *Rugrats* twist.

• *Jimmy Neutron Boy Genius* is a game for PC, Play Station 2 and Game Boy Advance, based on the boy genius who stars in the new Paramount Pictures movie. Kids 6 to 12 can help him save the world—and play with his friends.

• *Rocket Power Extreme Arcade Action* for PC has four arcade action games that let players pretend to be their favorite *Rocket Power* character, including Otto, Twister, Reggie and Sam.

• *Rocket Power Team Rocket Rescue* for Playstation offers virtual skateboarding, snowboarding, roller blading and more.

• *Rocket Power Dream Scheme* for Game Boy Advance uses different characters and offers 16 levels of gameplay in three styles including skateboarding, rollerboarding and hopping on a Pogo Stick.

• *The Wild Thornberrys Chimp Chase* for Game Boy Advance lets children 6 to 12 help Eliza and her family rescue their talking chimp, Darwin, from kidnappers. The game helps children explore South America, Africa, Australia and the Arctic Circle, while learning about animals from lions to rhinos.

These games, created by THQ, are available in toy and electronic stores to help make for easy holiday giving and happy playing throughout the New Year.