

HOLIDAY GIFT IDEAS

Holiday Game Review

(NAPSA)—If you plan on giving your children video games this year, you're not alone. Consumers bought more than 225 million computer and video games in 2001—many of which were given as holiday gifts. Even more games are expected to be sold this year.

What's hot this holiday season for popular game systems like the PlayStation 2, Game Cube and Game Boy Advance? Experts agree gamers of all ages will be looking for action games, games with familiar characters and new versions of old favorites. Some expected holiday hits include:

- **Race Toward A Great Game**—When a criminal gang of racing villains takes over Monument City, players must put their driving skills—and cool street machines—to the test. “Hot Wheels Velocity X” is a high-speed, mission-based racing adventure built on core “combat racing principles.” The game offers players surreal environments that convey the ultimate racing experience. Features include wild aerial stunts, huge loops, death-defying jumps, hidden shortcuts and the ability to drive up walls.

- **Surf's Up**—Someone's stolen all the sand from Ocean Shores Beach, ruining the annual surf contest. In “Rocket Power: Beach Bandits,” players need to become sand sleuths and figure out who's run away with the sand. Favorite



Reindeer—and video games are expected to delight young gift-getters this holiday season.

characters from the hit Nickelodeon show will use their extreme sports skills to solve the mystery and run corporate greed out of town.

- **Play With Friends**—The game “SpongeBob SquarePants: Revenge of the Flying Dutchman” lets gamers play with familiar television characters. While cruising through Bikini Bottom, SpongeBob discovers a series of treasure chests covered with warning signs. He opens the chests only to discover he has released the imprisoned Flying Dutchman. SpongeBob learns the only way to stop the Dutchman's evil plan is to find the lost treasures hidden throughout Bikini Bottom.

For more information on popular games, visit www.thq.com.