

Age-Appropriate Toys 4 Years

Did you know?

- Toys should be ones that build small and large motor skills, stimulate the imagination and creativity, and teach children about the adult and physical worlds. Toys should also encourage development of eye-hand coordination, color and shape identification, spatial relationships, and language development.
 - Small motor skills- puzzles and memory games, smaller leggo, blocks, construction sets.
 - Large motor skills- balls, riding 2 wheeled bike with trainers & 2 wheeled scooter and climbing toys, swings, totem tennis, pretend cricket/ golf sets etc.
 - Imagination skills- dolls that can be fed & dressed up, cars, kitchen play, dress up clothes, kitchen play/ tea sets, garden toys,
 - Creativity- crayons, paper, clay, paints, child sized scissors, lots of magazines to cut up, craft activities , play dough, chalk board.
 - Musical play- instruments, cd players,
 - Books- your child's attention span is longer and they will becoming more of an active participant in the reading activity
- Toys should be stored near where the child plays. Put toys on low shelves in baskets or clear containers so the child can see the toys. Limit the number of toys you have displayed. If there are too many, the child may not play with them all. This also limits the clutter.
- Play is learning!! Don't get caught trying to teach your 4 year old! They will learn sounds , words and numbers through incidental play. Use magnetic letters on the fridge to match to things that sound the same, play I spy with colours, clap count numbers, count steps, looks at words like shop signs
- show them their name in print. *use correct font for school. Practise writing from about 4 ½ years.- but always praise attempts!!!
- Don't let them experience failure at reading, writing or numeracy- gently allow errors and correct.
- Play "schools"- let them be the teacher or let them teach their dolls

