

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE

This holiday season find great gifts that also support your child's skill development! Here are a few ideas to inspire you, categorized by age and skill type for your convenience.

AGE 2



- [Mini Rainmaker](#) (\$10) **Alert to Sounds, Visual Tracking**

Perfect for helping young children alert to sound and visually track. Holding and shaking the rattle are even developmental milestones!



- [Spin Again](#) (\$30) **Hand Eye Coordination, Visual Tracking, Fine Motor**

A great ring stacker for working on fine motor skills and hand eye coordination that also has irresistible visual appeal as the gears whirl down the central rod.



- [Piggy Bank Toy](#) (\$15) **Fine Motor, Alert to Sounds, Developmental Skills**

Excellent for practicing hand manipulation, isolating fingers, counting, and naming colors. A favorite in occupational therapy and speech clinics!



- [Spin-A-Letter](#) (\$20) **Hand Eye Coordination, Developmental Skills**

A visually and auditorily stimulating toy that will keep your kid entertained for hours! Supports the development of hand eye coordination, cause and effect, and naming letters.



- [Pound A Ball](#) (\$20) **Visual Tracking, Hand Eye Coordination, Fine Motor**

A great cause and effect toy for young children! Encourages fine motor, visual tracking, and hand eye coordination as well.



- [Nuts and Bolts Set](#) (\$13) **Bilateral Skills, Fine Motor, Developmental Skills**

Match and sort colors while developing fine motor skills and bilateral coordination with these oversized nuts and bolts – perfect for small hands!



- [Pegboard Set](#) (\$15) **Bilateral Skills, Fine Motor, Developmental Skills**

With this set, you can work on counting, colors, lacing, and sorting all while encouraging fine motor skill development.

AGE 3



- [Magna Tiles](#) / [Picasso Tiles](#) (\$60) **Fine Motor, Visuospatial, Bilateral Skills**

A great alternative to Legos, these magnetic tiles are large enough for little hands to manipulate and also encourage complex building for older kids. Since two hands are used for building, it supports bilateral skills as well.



- [Kinetic Sand](#) (\$12) / [Floam](#) (\$8) **Sensory Processing, Fine Motor, Bilateral Skill**

Kinetic Sand has the consistency of brown sugar, so it packs nicely together for building and molding and it is less messy than traditional sand. Floam has a similar sticky texture to rice krispy treats. Both are great for helping kids who are tactile defensive explore a broader range of textures, and also support hand strengthening and bilateral coordination when building.



- [Easel](#) (\$65) **Fine Motor, Strength**

Drawing on a vertical surface is especially great for developing handwriting skills like proper grasp and arm and shoulder strengthening. Some easels even have the capability for chalk, paper, and dry erase all in one.



- [Super Sorting Pie](#) (\$20) **Fine Motor, Developmental Skills**

A fun fine motor toy that promotes the fine motor skills needed for correct pencil grasp, and also encourages color identification, number skills, and pattern identification.



- [Piggy Bank Toy](#) (\$15) **Fine Motor, Developmental Skills**

Excellent for practicing hand manipulation, isolating fingers, counting, and naming colors. A favorite in occupational therapy and speech clinics!



- [Spin-A-Letter](#) (\$20) **Developmental Skills**

A visually and auditorily stimulating toy that will keep your kid entertained for hours! Supports the development of hand eye coordination, cause and effect, and naming letters.



- [Pop the Pig](#) (\$17) **Developmental Skills, Fine Motor, Executive Function**

A fun and silly game that encourages turn taking, fine motor skills, and number and color identification.



- [Velcro Catch](#) (\$20) **Hand Eye Coordination, Bilateral Skills**

With a mitt that is made of velcro to catch the ball, this game encourages bilateral skills and gross motor development. It makes a great backyard or beach game when the weather gets warmer, too!



- [Nuts and Bolts Set](#) (\$13) **Developmental Skills, Fine Motor, Bilateral Skills**
Match and sort colors while developing fine motor skills and bilateral coordination with these oversized nuts and bolts – perfect for small hands!



- [Pegboard Set](#) (\$15) **Developmental Skills, Fine Motor, Bilateral Skills**
With this set, you can work on counting, colors, lacing, and sorting all while encouraging fine motor skill development.



- [Mini Trampoline](#) (\$50) / [Doorway Swing Collection](#) (\$180) **Strength, Sensory Processing**

Excellent for building strength and motor skills and helps get the wiggles out on cold winter days! A great addition to a sensory diet for those with sensory processing concerns who need to increase arousal or need input to focus.



- [Plasma Car](#) (\$70) **Motor Planning, Sensory Processing**
Move the steering wheel back and forth to make the car go! Great for motor planning, provides sensory input, and small enough to use inside the house.

AGES 4 - 5



- [Magna Tiles](#) / [Picasso Tiles](#) (\$50) **Fine Motor, Visuospatial, Bilateral Skills**
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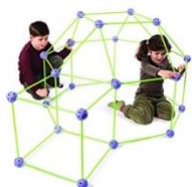


- [Super Sorting Pie](#) (\$20) **Fine Motor, Early Developmental Skills**
A fun fine motor toy that promotes the fine motor skills for correct pencil grasp, and also encourages color identification, number skills, and pattern identification.



[Scooter Board](#) (\$20) **Strength, Motor Planning, Sensory Processing**

Scooter boards are very popular in the OT clinic as there are so many ways to use them in play and they are fantastic for gross motor development and sensory input. Try "body bowling" by setting up soft blocks and crashing into them on the scooter board, create an obstacle course that they must maneuver around on their scooter board, or hide objects around the room and have them find them while moving around on their scooter board.



▪ [Crazy Forts](#) (\$50) **Sensory Processing, Fine Motor**

Create cozy sensory spaces with these geometric fort structures! Great for a wide range of ages, they will be using these for years.



▪ [Velcro Catch](#) (\$20) **Gross Motor Skills**

With a mitt that is made of velcro to catch the ball, this game encourages bilateral skills and gross motor development. It makes a great backyard or beach game when the weather gets warmer, too!



▪ [Monkeying Around](#) (\$17) **Executive Function, Fine Motor**

This balancing game exercises turn taking, fine motor skills, and attention, and is fun and exciting for kids.



▪ [Marble Run](#) (\$35) **Executive Function, Fine Motor, Visuospatial, Visual Tracking**

Kids of all ages can work solo or work together to build a structure that will get the marble to the finish line. This activity targets fine motor skills, visual perceptual skills, and teamwork. It also can be a pleasing stim to those on the autism spectrum!



▪ [Easel](#) (\$65) **Fine Motor, Strength, Handwriting Prep**

Drawing on a vertical surface is especially great for developing handwriting skills like proper grasp and arm and shoulder strengthening. Some easels even have the capability for chalk, paper, and dry erase all in one.



▪ [Pop the Pig](#) (\$17) **Developmental Skills, Fine Motor, Executive Function**

A fun and silly game that encourages turn taking, fine motor skills, and number and color identification.



▪ [Zip Ball](#) (\$12) **Visual Tracking, Executive Function, Strength, Bilateral Skills**

Zip Ball is great cooperative game for upper body strengthening, postural control, motor planning and bilateral coordination. It also requires kids to visually track the ball as it moves closer to their hands.



- [Mini Trampoline](#) (\$50) / [Doorway Swing Collection](#) (\$180) **Strength, Sensory Processing**

Excellent for building strength and motor skills and helps get the wiggles out on cold winter days! A great addition to a sensory diet for those with sensory processing concerns who need to increase arousal or need input to focus.



- [Plasma Car](#) (\$70) **Motor Planning, Sensory Processing**

Move the steering wheel back and forth to make the car go! Great for motor planning, provides sensory input, and small enough to use inside the house.



- [Body Sock](#) (\$20) **Sensory Processing**

Sensory seeking kids love the compression from a body sock's stretchy fabric! It can be used passively while snuggling up and watching a movie or can be used more actively around the house while pretending to be monsters.



- [Educational Insights Board Games](#) (\$20) **Fine Motor, Executive Function, Developmental Skills**

"Shelby's Snack Shack Game" and "Hoppy Floppy's Happy Hunt Game" are popular choices. These fun games encourage counting, color identification, fine motor skills, and turn taking.

AGES 6 - 7



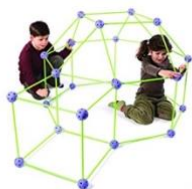
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▪ [DIY Slime Kit](#) (\$20) **Executive Function, Fine Motor, Sensory Processing**

Kids practice their executive functioning skills as they follow the steps to make slime. Slime is fantastic for hand strengthening, dexterity, and working on tactile defensiveness.



▪ [Mini Trampoline](#) (\$50) / [Doorway Swing Collection](#) (\$180) **Strength, Sensory Processing**

Excellent for building strength and motor skills and helps get the wiggles out on cold winter days! A great addition to a sensory diet for those with sensory processing concerns who need to increase arousal or need input to focus.



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▪ [Nerf Nitro Longshot Smash](#) (\$15) **Fine Motor, Visual Tracking**

Send these Nerf cars flying across the room while they practice fine motor skills and visual tracking skills!



▪ [Classic Board Games](#) (various prices) **Executive Function, Fine Motor, Strength**

What were the games you loved as a child? Pick your favorites! Uno, Connect 4, Guess Who, Twister, Jenga, Trouble, Yahtzee, Clue, Jenga, Battleship... all of these games work on problem solving, strategy, and good sportsmanship. Many also have fine motor skills, visual perceptual skills, and/or gross motor skills.



▪ [Hand Fidgets](#) (various prices) **Sensory Processing, Fine Motor**

Hand fidgets are great for sensory soothing as well as improving fine motor skills. Some ideas include koosh balls, slinkies, water timers, pop tubes, or a fidget cube. Find them online or even at your local dollar store.



▪ [Marble Run](#) (\$35) **Executive Functioning, Fine Motor, Visuospatial, Visual Tracking**

Kids of all ages can work on their own or work together to build a structure that will get the marble to the finish line. This activity targets fine motor skills, visual perceptual skills, and teamwork. It also can be a pleasing stim to those on the autism spectrum!

AGES 8 - 10



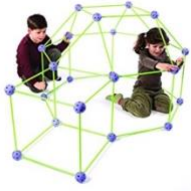
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A fun game that exercises short-term memory, attention to task, response speed, and fine motor skills.



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▪ [Zip Ball](#) (\$12) **Visual Tracking, Executive Function, Strength**

Zoom Ball is great for upper body strengthening, postural control, motor planning and bilateral coordination. Additionally, kids need to visually track the ball as it moves closer to their hands, so it definitely works on visual skills, too. Since two people are required to play, it also helps build turn-taking and cooperative play skills.



▪ [Classic Board Games](#) (various prices) **Executive Function, Fine Motor, Strength**

What were the games you loved as a child? Pick your favorites! Uno, Connect 4, Guess Who, Twister, Jenga, Trouble, Yahtzee, Clue, Jenga, Battleship... all of these games work on problem solving, strategy, and good sportsmanship. Many also have fine motor skills, visual perceptual skills, and/or gross motor skills.



▪ [Modern Games](#) (various prices) **Executive Function, Fine Motor**

Games have made a major comeback in recent years, stirring the development of lots of new great games! For this age range, check out Bananagrams, Ticket to Ride, Forbidden Island, Hive, Settlers of Catan, and Munchkin. Game nights help foster socioemotional wellbeing, and support social skills, fine motor skills, problem solving, and strategy!



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- [Beat That! Battle Game](#) (\$25) **Fine Motor, Executive Function**

A wacky party game for adults and kids that has over one hundred dexterity-based challenges for frenzied fun!



- [MEL Chemistry Subscription Box](#) (\$40) **Executive Function**

Receive 2 to 3 exciting experiments every month with rotating chemistry topics. Ingredients, equipment, and instructions are all provided. A fun way to nurture a love for science and exercise executive function skills like working memory and planning.

AGES 11 - 14



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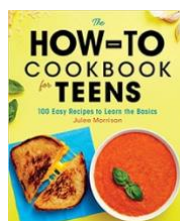
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- [Starter Loom Kit](#) (\$55) **Executive Function, Fine Motor**

Weaving is a beautiful craft that also exercises functioning skills such as planning and working memory, and fine motor skills.



- [The How-To Cookbook for Teens](#) (\$12) **Executive Function**

Not only is cooking a useful skill, but following recipes is a great way to practice executive function skills like working memory and planning.

AGES 15 +



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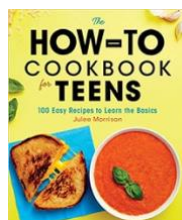
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Not only is cooking a useful skill, but following recipes is a great way to practice executive function skills like working memory and planning.



- [Uncommon Goods Therapy Dough](#) (\$15) Sensory Processing, Fine Motor

This isn't just any therapy dough! With luxurious scents and a soothing texture, these putties can be used as an elevated stress relief fidget or simply for molding like clay.



- [Starter Loom Kit](#) (\$55) Executive Function, Fine Motor

Weaving is a beautiful craft that also exercises functioning skills such as planning and working memory, and fine motor skills.