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Games, Puzzles and Learning Toys for Kids by Pooja Sharma

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At preschool days, children have bundles of energy and they feel excited at this stage. Some little ones chatter constantly, while some play and run around endless, others sing, dance and perform. Still, toddlers have lot of creative energy, which they want to unleash. One such avenue where they can channelize their energy is by playing with educational toys. Some of the preschooler-oriented educational toys are like puppets, hide-away tents, art games, as well as some interactive books.

Also, exercise toys are great for letting out that extra energy in them. They are good choice as it encourages activity and movement preferably at the outdoors. Preschoolers also show great interest in world around them. They enjoy playing with realistic toys such as farm and animal sets, grocery store prop boxes, model cars, and trains etc.

As parents, you must encourage them to be creative and explore their capabilities by playing with educational toy but make sure they keep away from sharp or cutting toys and electrical toys as they can be risky.

Educational toys are also entertaining; they are the instruments that help a child to learn about themselves and the world around them. Through educational toys, children discover and explore things about themselves and around them. Toys help in building personality and add creative skills in them.

Playing with educational toys in early childhood is the best foundation for success in school. learning toys help a child achieve the following:

â€¢ Developing physical and gross motor skills in child as he learns to grasp, crawl, run, climb, and balance.

â€¢ Development of cognitive thinking in children as they learn to solve problems (cause and effect), through play. Children also learn colors, numbers, size, and shapes.

â€¢ Development of language skills helps in improving interaction with others. Also, aids in learning to cooperate and negotiate to take turns while playing. Also teaches them sharing.

â€¢ Development of emotional feelings- Children while playing feels safe, successful and confident. Earns positive well- being and makes them emotionally strong.

â€¢ Development of social skills. Social skills grow as the child plays.

Selecting educational toys for your child

Parents also have an important role in choosing good quality instructive toys. Educational toy should be challenging for the child and should be able to match his interest and abilities.

Below are some suggestions for appropriate toys for children -

0-1 year old â€“ Rattles, Stacking toys, Pop up toys, Musical toys, squeeze toys, Teething toys

1 to 3 years old- Push-pull and ride-on toys, Large lacing beads, Blocks, stacking rings, Simple puzzles, shape sorters, peg boards, Crayons, markers, and clay.

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