

Best Toys and Gifts: a speech therapist's list (PART 2)!

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If you missed the first part of this list, be sure to go to www.letsplaythespeechandlanguage.com and read "Best Toys and Gifts". To recap, the best toys for helping little ones learn to talk:

- 1) do not require batteries
- 2) allow children to CREATE
- 3) allow children to be ACTIVE
- 4) allow children to PRETEND

Bubbles	Tunnels	Puzzles/shape sorters	Blocks
Musical Instruments	Pop up houses/tents	Touch and feel cards	Balls
Books	Kitchen with food	Simple games	Farm with animals
Toy phone/microphone	Playdough	Stacking/nesting cups	Potatohead
Sensory books/tags	Costumes/dress up clothes	Music	Mirror
Cars, trucks, trains	Dolls/stuffed animals	Toy stroller	Shopping cart

The toys pictured below are examples of these types of toys. However, if you keep the 4 points in mind from above (no batteries, Create, Active, Pretend) then you'll know you're on the right track! Specific play ideas, and links to purchase all of these pictured toys, can be found on www.letsplaythespeechandlanguage.com.





*For the FULL article, the complete toy list, and for ideas about HOW to use these toys to encourage speech and language skills, go to www.letsplaythespeechandlanguage.com.

