



# Toy Tips

Selecting Toys

**D**ID YOU KNOW..  
DIFFERENT KINDS OF  
TOYS FOSTERS DIFFERENT  
KINDS OF PLAY?



**W**hat kinds of toys  
are on your child's toy shelf?

**C**ommercial bought toys?

**O**pen-ended toys?

**H**ome-made toys?



**W**e need to find ways  
to help children become  
informed consumers.

In the midst of the commercial  
exploitation which exists in America  
society today and which is specifically  
aimed at children...



**Commercial toys are  
usually created with a  
single use in mind....**

War toys keep children focused on  
violence and aggression.

A project of The Florida Partnership for ParentInvolvement

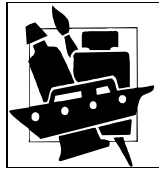
Center of Excellence ♦ Louis de la Parte Florida Mental Health Institute ♦ Florida Children's Forum  
Home Instruction Program for Preschool Youngsters ♦ Hillsborough County head start ♦ Hillsborough County Even Start



**Open-ended toys are better for children....**

They encourage creative thinking through multiple use.

They promote exploration and imaginative play



**Home-made toys provide all the benefits that open-ended toys do and more...**

They encourage self initiative and build your child's self-confidence.

They tend to challenge higher thinking skills.

They promote family interaction and participation.

Simple household materials can be used which saves families money.



**AND BEST OF ALL...**

**They are fun!**



**F**or information on buying and creating appropriate toys for your child, contact your local Resource and Referral Center for Tip Sheet: The Toy Trap!

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For more information contact:



**The Center for Parent Involvement** (FCPI) was funded by the U.S. Department of Education; Goals 2000, Educate America Act from 1994-1999. Guided by an advisory board of parents and professionals, the FCPI's goal was to tap the power of parents.

The FCPI gathered information on parent needs, coordinated the information, and created a series of resources organized by theme, including fact sheets for parents and professionals, "Beyond the Basics" resources, and resource identification lists. Many of the resources have been translated into Spanish language versions, and every effort has been made to preserve the meaning and flavor of the original English documents. This series of materials provides a wealth of current information for both parents and providers; the complete set of resources can be obtained in PDF format on the Department of Child and Family Studies Website at [www.fmhi.usf.edu/cfs/dares/fcpi](http://www.fmhi.usf.edu/cfs/dares/fcpi). The staff of the FCPI are hopeful that their work will continue to help children get ready to learn for many years to come.

The series' themes include:

- Family Empowerment
- Parent Involvement
- Parenting Support
- School Readiness
- Violence in the Lives of Children
- Transition to Kindergarten

The Center was one component of a project led by Hillsborough County Center of Excellence in collaboration with the Department of Child & Family Studies at USF's de la Parte Institute and the Florida Children's Forum. Other project partners include HIPPI (Home Instruction Program for Preschool Youngsters), Hillsborough County Head Start and Hillsborough County Even Start. For more information about these projects, call 813.974.4612.

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