

# Gifts for the Youngsters



Children can actually be one of the easiest groups to please because they will often tell you exactly what they hope to receive on Christmas morning. Whether it's the next big video game or the new talking animal fad, you have likely been given an extensive list of potential presents this holiday season. But how do you filter through it to make sure every gift returns a smile for your investment?

## Toddlers

For 2- to 3-year-olds, it is often quantity over quality when it comes to Christmas gifts. These are the years you don't necessarily have to break the bank for your holiday spending. A puzzle set with blocks or new toy instruments can be relatively inexpensive gifts that keep your toddler busy and entertained.

Consider your child's walking stage when choosing a gift. If they are able to sit upright with no problem, then a collection of toy zoo animals may be the perfect gift. Toddlers who have discovered the art of walking will enjoy a drag-along toy animal or vehicle.

If you're buying for another family, be sure to check with the parents first to avoid unwanted or duplicate toys.

## Young Children

Finding the perfect gift for children between the toddler and teenage years requires knowledge of what they're interested in. This can be the most difficult age group to please. Generally, an outdoor activity of some type – water guns or yard games – can be a hit for those in this age group.

For the tweens in your life, a paid ticket to the movies may fit the bill. For the more outdoorsy recipients, you can find exploration or nature kits that will put their natural curiosity to good use.

## Teenagers

Hopefully the teenager in your life has discovered a hobby or sport about which they are passionate. Whether it be piano, football or model-making, there is a gift out there to match their creative skills.

If they've just started picking up a new endeavor, maybe professional lessons or a digital how-to book may be the perfect gift to sharpen their skill set.

The teenage years are also about curiosity, so finding a coffee-table photo book on their favorite recording artist or history subject will help them learn more while also enjoying bright, vibrant photos.



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