

Tips from the BBB

Herald Special BUYING TOYS
Virtually every department, discount, drug and variety store enlarges its toy section during the holiday season. Shoppers should have a clear idea in mind, says Paul Tuz, president of the Better Business Bureau, of what is most appropriate for the children on their gift lists. Otherwise, impulse buying may result in selections that are not properly matched to a child's age and ability level.

The basic difference in today's toys compared to toys of only a generation ago is their sophistication, reflecting the increasingly complex nature of society. The best

playthings for developing competence and mastery that lead to imaginative thinking should not only be appropriate to a child's chronological and mental ages, but also provide some degree of realism; do or suggest something that can be learned by the child; be assembled, disassembled and put back together again by the child; and be used as is or in arrangement (such as putting blocks together to suggest a car) to provide a variety of play situations.

Mr. Tuz says that current studies in child psychology indicate that children prefer, and benefit most from toys that are just a little above their level of competence. Toys

should provide children with some measure of immediate success and satisfaction, but require a longer term - perhaps weeks or months - and a good dose of parental involvement for children to understand and explore the full potential of their playthings.

Although most toys produced today are as safe as they are sophisticated, identified below are seven toy dangers shoppers should be aware of:

- **Sharp edges:** Toys of brittle plastic or glass can be broken easily, leaving dangerous, sharp, cutting edges. Wooden, metal and plastic toys sometimes have sharp edges due to poor construction.
- **Small parts:** Tiny toys and toys with small removable parts can be swallowed or become lodged in a child's windpipe, ears or nose. The squeakers in some squeeze toys can be removed and swallowed. The seams of poorly constructed stuffed dolls or animals can break open and release small pellets that can be swallowed or inhaled.
- **Sharp points:** Broken toys can expose dangerous prongs and knife-like sharp points. Pins and staples on dolls' clothes, hair and accessories can easily puncture an unsuspecting child. Even a teddy bear or stuffed toy can have barbed eyes or wired limbs, which can cut or stab.
- **Loud noises:** Toy caps and some noise-making guns and other toys can produce sounds at noise levels that can damage hearing.
- **Propelled objects:** Projectile-guided missiles and similar flying toys - can be turned into weapons and can injure eyes in particular. Children should never be given adult lawn darts or other hobby or sporting equipment, having sharp points. Arrows or darts used by children should have adult supervision and be equipped with soft cork tips, rubber suction cups or other protective tips intended to prevent injury.
- **Electrical toys:** Toys with heating elements are only recommended for children over eight years old. Check regularly for broken parts, frayed cords, and damage to compartments that enclose wiring.



CHRISTMAS CLOWNING

The Georgetown Legion's children's Christmas party was uproarious fun, youngsters who attended the event agree, and the people who really stole the show Thursday night at the Legion hall on Mill Street were Pepl (right) and Jack, two of the greatest clowns this town's seen in ages. Their show combined magic and hijinx and kept their juvenile audience doubled over in belly laughs. To top it off, there seemed to be an endless flow of cookies and soft drinks coming from the Legion kitchen.

(Herald photo)

Winter accidents if you don't adjust

Herald Special
Winter weather gets the blame for a lot of accidents. But, according to the Ontario Safety League, the real culprit in most cases is the driver who fails to adjust to cold weather problems.

Here are some of the causes of winter wrecks and the defensive driving measures used to avoid them.

"Too fast for conditions" is all too frequently listed as an accident factor. When the road is slippery you can't stop as quickly or as safely. Lower your speed when the road surface is hazardous. The Ontario Safety League states that you should stretch your following distance to even double or triple the usual road interval.

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Keep Your New Years Resolution...

You are invited to attend an informative and entertaining event, designed to help you to successfully achieve, the goals and resolutions you set for yourself. Through a series of practical, easy to understand steps, you can make the changes you desire, & achieve the success you want.

PLACE: John Elliott Theatre
Georgetown Cultural Centre
Georgetown, Ont.

WHEN: Sat. Jan. 23, 1982 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

COST: \$4.00 per person
Seating limited to 250 people

Reserve tickets by calling: 877-7715 9:00 - 5:00 Monday - Friday

HALTON HILLS ARTS COUNCIL

Wishing all a 'Happy holiday!'

The Halton Hills Arts Council would like to take this opportunity to wish its members and all readers of this column a happy and joyous holiday season.

'Tis the season to be jolly
Trim the tree and light the lights
Hang the mistletoe and holly
Sing the carols through the night
Sing of Frosty and of Santa
Think of friends far away
But don't forget the one we honor
Who was born on Christmas day



Christmas concerts and Christmas sales give way now to family activities and festive preparations. However, for those who are on the lookout for activities to keep the children occupied once the excitement of Christmas has begun to subside, do not despair. Your Library comes to the rescue.

Next Tuesday (Dec. 29) there will be a special film show for children at the Acton Public Library at 11 a.m. and at Georgetown Public Library at 2 p.m. Admission free.

Next Wednesday, Drama, Mime and Music For Children with Brenda Archer. This delightful activity will take place at 11 a.m. at the Georgetown Library and at 2 p.m. at the Acton Library.

Trail-breaking

The Y will be offering new programs beginning in January, including stained glass, chess, quilting, aerobics 2 and Kindercooking. Register at 89 Mountainview Rd. S. at 877-6163. Registration for all Y programs from pre-school to adult education are now in progress.

LEGION BINGO
TONIGHT
and every
Wednesday
at 7:45 p.m.

EXCHANGE TAVERN
37 KING ST. 877-3541
GEORGETOWN

Wishing everyone a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

PHOTO ART
Exhibition of Photography,
open to all residents of
Halton Hills. Last day of
entry: January 9, 1982.

For information see Halton Camera
Exchange, 7 James St. Georgetown

Merry Christmas

Cold weather is upon us - Christmas time is near. Forget about the humdrums. Get rid of ghosts and smears.

Give your TV a present. So fresh, so crisp, so clear - 19 Channels of Cable Will bring it Christmas cheer.

Don't hesitate any longer. Don't even wait a while. Call Halton-Cable Systems. You'll be ahead by a country mile.

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- 13 KITCHENER
- 19 TORONTO
- 25 TORONTO
- 79 TORONTO
- 4 LOCAL

On Your Converter

- 3 BARRIE
- 10 LONDON
- 12 PETERBORO
- 17 BUFFALO
- 29 BUFFALO
- 47 TORONTO
- 26 HOUSE OF COMMONS

AND MORE COMING

CANADIAN ODEON THEATRES GEORGETOWN 3

2ND FUN WEEK FOR YOUR HOLIDAY ENTERTAINMENT

JOHN BELUSHI DAN AYKROYD

Lock the doors...here come the **Neighbors**
A Comic-Nightmare
Weekdays: 7:05, 9:10, Sat., Sun from 2:10
Warning - not suitable for children - Thr. Gr. Off.

2ND EXCITING WEEK
Nobody leans on Sharky's Machine.

BURT REYNOLDS SHARKY'S MACHINE

Weekdays: 7:00, 9:25 & 11:50
Sat., Sun. from 2:00 p.m.

2ND DELIGHTFUL WEEK OF DISNEY'S

Cinderella

Weekdays: 7 & 9 p.m.; Sat. Sun. from 2 p.m.

Cinemas Open Xmas Day from 8:30. Boxing Day from 2 p.m.
Spec. Weekday Matinee at 2 p.m. Mon. to Thurs.
Dec. 28 - 31st.

Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs. Dec. 28th to Dec. 31st
Special Holiday Matinee Show
"SUMMER RALLY" All seats \$1.00 - 2 p.m.

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GEORGETOWN

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