

# SHOP

## holiday

### Gift ideas for young children



Franklin Fold-N-Go Shooters Bean Bag are competitive fun inside or out. \$39.99; Dick's Sporting Goods.



Imaginets vertical and upset-free version of building images adds a new twist to creating images with colored shapes. \$15; Target.



Imagine a trampoline for a koosh ball and you have the Mini Super Sports Disk from Ogo. Kids easily bounce the ball in the air to themselves or each other. \$17.50; E2Toys 2 Try in Scott Towne Center, Scott.



Kids may not consider them gifts, but a good children's book pays off many times over at bedtime. Michael Scott ("Latasha and the Little Red Tornado") and John Manders ("The Really Awful Musicians") are among the excellent authors/illustrators working in Western Pennsylvania. At independent books stores such as Penguin Bookshop in Sewickley, chain stores such as Barnes & Nobles and at the authors' personal websites.

Kids like to jump and they love rockets — the air-powered Stomp Rocket does both. Plus, its Glow Jr. set means you can find the high-flying foam projectiles after the kids go in for dinner. \$14; [www.fatbraintoy.com](http://www.fatbraintoy.com).



A Pittsburgh International Children's Theater play is an intangible gift with intangible benefits. Coming shows are 'Charlotte's Web' (Jan. 8-15, 2012); 'The Way Back Home' (Feb. 26-March 4) and 'Treasured Stories by Eric Carle' (April 13-15). Shows take place around Pittsburgh; tickets are \$9.50-\$11. Call 412-456-1390 or go to [www.trustarts.org/kids](http://www.trustarts.org/kids)

— Andrew Druckenbrod