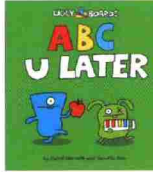




{REVIEWS} read

By Veronique F. Saiya

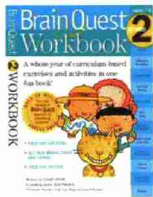
BOOKS



ABC U LATER From A is for apple to Z is for zilch, beloved Uglydolls star in hilarious scenes that teach the alphabet in eye-popping spreads that are unutterably Ugly—which is to say charming, irreverent, offbeat, and adorable! A board book design makes it appropriate for little ones. *Ages 1+.* By David Horvath & Sun-Min Kim. Random House Books for Young Readers; www.randomhouse.com/kids; \$7.

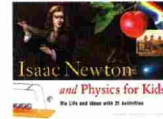


THE PRINCESS AND THE THREE KNIGHTS “There was once a princess . . . the most beautiful in all the land.” The search is on! The king determines to find a young man worthy of the hand of the princess. The knights of the kingdom endure tests and challenges to show their courage and strength. But those qualities alone will not win the king’s approval or the princess’s heart. The right knight must prove his kindness and character—and the real meaning of true love. *Ages 4+.* By Eileen Spinelli. Zonderkidz; www.zonderkidz.com; \$17.

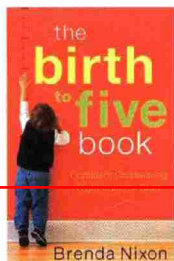


BRAIN QUEST WORKBOOK GRADE 2 Jam-packed with hundreds of curriculum-based activities, exercises, and games in every subject, it reinforces what kids are learning in the classroom. The workbook’s lively layout and easy-to-follow explanations make learning fun, interactive, and concrete. Plus it’s written to help parents follow and explain key concepts. Includes phonics, how to build a sentence, story starters, addition and subtraction, fractions, time, geography, science, and more. *Ages 7+.* By Liane Onish. Workman Publishing Co.; www.brainquest.com; \$13.

ISAAC NEWTON AND PHYSICS FOR KIDS A rich portrait of this brilliant man, including 21 hands-on projects that explore the scientific concepts Newton developed and the times in which he lived. Readers will build a simple waterwheel, create a 17th-century plague mask, track the phases of the moon, and test Newton’s Three Laws of Motion using coins, a skateboard, and a model boat they construct themselves. The text includes a time line, online resources, and reading list for further study. And through it all, readers will learn how the son of a sheep farmer grew to become the most influential physicist in history. *Ages 9+.* By Kerrie Logan Hollihan. Chicago Review Press; www.chicagoreviewpress.com; \$17.

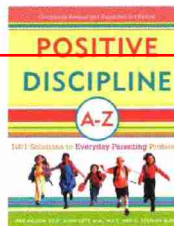


PARENTS

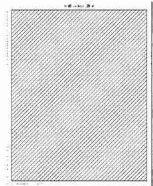


THE BIRTH TO FIVE BOOK The book offers parents practical, down-to-earth help and success strategies for parenting. Whether raising an infant, toddler, or preschooler—or all of them at once!—young parents will love this collection of commonsense advice. From feeding and reading to discipline, toilet training, and play, it’s all here in simple terms that any parent can put to work immediately. By Brenda Nixon. Revell; www.revellbooks.com; \$13.

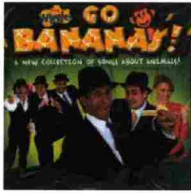
A PARENTS’ GUIDE TO THE MIDDLE SCHOOL YEARS Because today’s children seem to grow up so fast, middle school has become the new high school. Concerns about homework, social issues, technology, and emotional health confront parents earlier than they would like or expect. Educator and parent Joe Bruzzese offers practical, empowering help for parents along with guidelines for their children, such as rules for using cell phones and tips for productive parent-teacher relationships. This streamlined guide helps parents and their families move toward the goal of not just surviving, but thriving in the middle school years. By Joe Bruzzese, M.A. Celestial Arts; www.tenspeed.com; \$15.



POSITIVE DISCIPLINE A-Z learn how to use methods to raise a child who is responsible, respectful, and resourceful. You’ll find practical solutions to such parenting challenges as: sibling rivalry, bedtime hassles, school problems, chores, ADHD, eating problems, procrastination, back talk, whining, tattling & lying, homework battles, exercise & obesity prevention, sleeping through the night, and up-to-the-minute information on new approaches to parenting in the age of computers and cell phones. By Jane Nelsen, Ed.D., Lynn Lott, & H. Stephen Glenn. Random House; www.randomhouse.com; \$17.



MUSIC

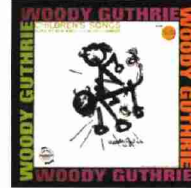


THE WIGGLES "GO BANANAS" In their latest adventure, the fab four of fun have recorded some of their most catchy and infectious songs to date. They jump into the heart of the groovy animal kingdom with songs such as "Monkey Man" (featuring none other than Australian Pop Princess, Kylie Minogue, who recorded the song as a treat for her two-year old nephew Charles), "Kangaroo Jumping," "Tassie Devil," and "The Chicken Walk." So jump into the jivin' jungle with the kings of pre-school swing, as The Wiggles Go Bananas! *All ages. Koch Records; www.kochrecords.com; CD/\$12.*



WOODY GUTHRIE CHILDREN'S SONGS Folk and classical vets Bob & Louise bring an upbeat energy to 14 songs by one of our most prized national treasures. Everyone from children to community organizers will be charmed by this vintage Golden Records LP and these Guthrie tunes: "Why Oh Why," "Dance Around," "Swimmy Swim Swim," "Race You Down the Mountain," "Little Seed," "I m Gonna Mail Myself to You," "Clean-O," "Bling Blang," and more! *All ages. Micro Werks Records; www.amazon.com; CD/\$10.*

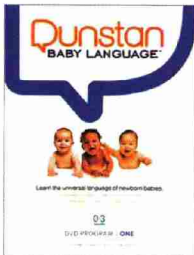
FROM YOUR GOLDEN CHILDHOOD: THE BEST OF LITTLE GOLDEN RECORDS, VOL. 1 A chronicle of the classic children s label Little Golden Records from its inception in 1948 to its peak of popularity in the early '60s. "Cowboys Never Cry" by Roy Rogers; "I Like People (The Friendly Song)" by Jimmy Durante; "Puff the Magic Dragon" by Sandpipers; and more! *All ages. Micro Werks Records; www.amazon.com; CD/\$10.*



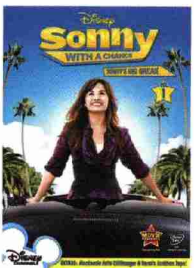
DISNEY CHANNEL PLAYLIST A brand new compilation featuring 15 hit songs from Disney Channel Original Movies and series including tracks performed by today's hottest tween stars like Jonas Brothers, Miley Cyrus, Demi Lovato, Selena Gomez, Mitchel Musso, the stars from High School Musical 3, and many more! Also including eight never before released tracks! *All ages. Walt Disney Records; www.disneymusic.disney.go.com; CD/\$19.*



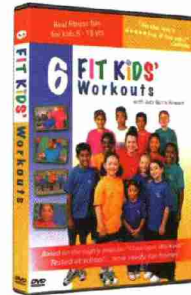
DVD & GAMES



DUNSTAN BABY LANGUAGE 0 TO 3 MONTHS As announced in an exclusive interview on the Oprah Winfrey Show, Australian mother Priscilla Dunstan has discovered the language of babies. Learn the 5 cries all newborns use to communicate their everyday needs from day 1. You will know when your baby is hungry, tired, needs burping, has lower wind, or is simply uncomfortable. By learning this System parents are able to settle their baby faster, resulting in happier babies who sleep longer and cry less. *All ages. Dunstan Baby USA, Inc.; www.dunstanbaby.com; DVD/\$40.*



6 FIT KIDS' WORKOUTS A blast for kids from ages 8 to 13! They're four five-minute and two ten-minute workouts that are easy to learn and fun to do (Hip & Happening Cardio Funk; Drum Beating, Foot Stomping African; Shimmy, Shaking & Loving Latin; Heart Pounding, Arms Pumping Aerobic Dance; Getting Funky; and Afro Latin combo). Teachers across North America have used this DVD to re-energize, invigorate, and motivate their students. *All ages. Bay View; www.dvdskills.com; DVD/\$25.*



SONNY WITH A CHANCE, VOL. 1 "SONNY'S BIG BREAK" Demi Lovato stars as Sonny, a Midwestern girl who gets her big break when she is invited to join the cast of the hit teen sketch comedy show So Random! Sonny can't wait to become friends with her castmates, but not everyone is thrilled to share the spotlight, so Sonny must rely on her quick wit, talent, and good humor to get her through any challenge. Come along for the ride and share the excitement as Sonny lives her Hollywood dream! *Rated G. Walt Disney Video; www.disneydvd.com; DVD/\$20.*

LEAPFROG "LET'S GO TO SCHOOL" School starts tomorrow, and Tad and Lily are nervous! Join Tad, Lily, and their magical firefly Edison as he gives them a tour of the classroom and shows them that the classroom is more nervous than they are! As the twins reassure the blocks, globe, clock, and more talking "teachers," they learn key lessons about phonics, counting, days of the week, and animals. *All ages. Lions Gate; www.universalstudios.com; DVD/\$15.*

