

10 GREAT GIFTS FOR \$10 OR LESS

Toys, games, craft supplies, and more big fun for little money



1 Little Fur Family By Margaret Wise Brown, illustrated by Garth Williams Covered in faux fur, this irresistible 1946 charmer relays a day in the life of some adorable woodland residents that are "warm as toast/smaller than most." HarperFestival, \$9; www.harpercollins.com

2 Harry Potter Quidditch Goggles The latest must-have trifle for fans of the high-flying wizard, these padded goggles easily adjust to fit all sizes. Elope, \$10; www.elope.com



3 Doodle Faces Complete with a refillable paper pad, a pencil, and a book of how-tos for drawing 20-plus quirky faces ("Doodles the Clown," "Oogah the Ogre"), this kit will keep budding Charles Schulzes rapt for hours. Klutz, \$10; www.klutz.com; 800-737-4123



4 Audubon Bird Call A few simple twists and turns of this wood-and-metal instrument produce an amazing range of birdlike twitters and tweets. Your bird feeder attendance is



bound to go way up! Audubon, \$6; www.eparks.com; 877-NAT-PARK

5 X-Pod Build one of the creatures pictured in the instructions, or encourage your child to use the dozens of pieces to concoct her own Lego masterpiece. Small pieces store neatly away inside the larger pieces when she's done. Four sets available. Lego, \$7; www.lego.com; 800-453-4652



6 Erasable Markers An idea long overdue. The erasers are built into the six brightly colored markers. Crayola, \$6; www.crayola.com; 800-272-9652



7 Mouse in Shoe Puppet Talk about a puppet with sole. This adorable mouse-in-his-house is based on a Turkish folk tale: the story is packaged along with the puppet. Folkmanis, \$8; www.folkmanis.com; 800-654-8922



8 Quark A fast-paced, versatile family card game for ages ten and up. Players must quickly count the brightly colored spheres on the Quark cards and be the first to lay down their number cards to get the corresponding amount. Gamewright, \$10; www.gamewright.com; 617-924-6006



9 Space Sand What's red, grainy, and never gets wet—even when immersed in water? It's Space Sand, sand that's undergone a chemical change that makes it unable to bond with water ("just like sand from Mars!" as the packaging quips). The cool thing is that it looks wet underwater, but when you scoop it back out, it's genuinely—amazingly!—dry. DuneCraft, \$3; www.dunecraft.com; 440-220-2163



10 Fun Beads These nifty plastic tubes come filled with everything a kid needs to string a sweet, colorful wooden bead necklace. And, hey, at this price, even Santa will be stocking up. Thirty-six designs—such as a ladybug, a bear, and a Christmas stocking—are available. Bead Bazaar USA, \$3; available at specialty toy and gift stores



— ELLIEN HARTER WALL