# MAC&Toys

toys, books, games and iPad/iPhone apps tested and approved by a pediatric occupation of therapise and all the children she works with!

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#### About Me

#### Meghan Corridan

I am a mom to the amazing 3 year old Quinn Eloise and wife to the most supportive Rob Reinhardt. I have been a pediatric occupational therapist in New York City since 2001. I have spent the last 11 years as a pediatric occupational therapist in New York City and have loved every second. I have worked with some of the coolest kids in this city and each of them has taught me something valuable

Sunday, November 8, 2015

## The Small (But Fun) Stuff!

Whether you celebrate Christmas or Hanukkah, finding small presents is a necessity during the holiday season. For me, filling an advent calendar and stockings are so much fun. I love finding little treasures because I know how much my daughter



Goody Bag Bar at Hiho Batik

loves them. I was actually in Hiho Batik, a local clothing and gift store in Park Slope, recently and saw they have a Goody Bag Bar but all of the little gifts would make wonderful stocking stuffers as well. They have a fantastic selection of little gifts (think lip gloss, bouncy balls, modeling clay, etc.) you can stock up on. If you are local, I highly recommend checking it out. I know that I am going to be hitting them up to find some special treasures for a lot of the special little kids in my life.

Finding little gifts that aren't junk can be a real challenge. If you are like me, you don't want to just buy stuff for the sake of buying it. The good news is that there are actually a lot of quality small and inexpensive gifts out there. I have tried to include items that are good for kids of all ages and don't take up a lot of room (being a New Yorker, I appreciate the importance of real estate and not having your space taken over by your kid's toys!). Each of the items I have featured below are guaranteed to be lots of fun but, at the same time, offer some kind of educational and therapeutic value. Lastly, I have tried to suggest things that are priced under \$10 (most but not all fit into this last category).

Here are some of my favorite little gifts for this year:

Rainbow Loom Finger Loom-even though it seems like more of a summer thing, I love therapeutic value of the Rainbow Loom. When I found the Finger Loom this summer, I was super excited. This little bracelet maker is perfect for throwing in a baggie with a bunch of your child's favorite colored bands. Perfect for working in fine motor development, eye-hand coordination, focus, attention and organizational skills.

Discovery Putty-I can't love this putty more by Fun and Function. More importantly, the kids I work with couldn't love it more and it does so many great things for them. There are now 4 different putties to choose from (school supplies, transportation, treats and animal rescue). There are about a dozen or so small pieces hidden in the putty and the kids have to search through find them. Once they find them all, you can have them hide the pieces again for the next person. This is great for working on strengthening and fine motor control. Also great for working on speech and language development.

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