

Shopping Days Left
11
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HOLIDAY COUNTDOWN

LITTLE ONES

Some of the latest trends for kids are those straight from the past. Think basketballs, fishing, and trampolines, and even art classes. For the more adventurous youths and adults, you can consider the purchase of a pet.

— Ignazio Messina
 BLADE STAFF WRITER



nabi 2 Kids Tablet or nabi Nick Jr. Kids Tablet — Both are available at **Target** and **Best Buy**. The nabi 2 Kids Tablet is WiFi capable, has 8GB on-board storage memory, a 7-inch screen, over 100 software applications for kids and parents, a 2 megapixel camera, Bluetooth, and media player. Costs **\$179.99**. The nabi Nick Jr. is smaller with a 5-inch screen and 4GB storage. Costs **\$139.99**. Both seem durable and packed with games — some even educational.

Ugly Stik Shakespeare rod and reel — What kid doesn't like impaling a worm with a sharp hook and tricking a fish into thinking it's a safe meal? There are various versions of kids' fishing rods available at most major retailers. **Target** carries an **Ugly Stik** that comes with multiple lures and line for **\$28.99**.



Spalding Polycarbonate Portable Basketball System 50 — Boys and girls from 2 to 18 like to shoot hoops. This basketball system's height is adjustable up to 10 feet. It has a 50-inch steel-framed polycarbonate backboard, is sturdy, and has two attached wheels that make it easy to maneuver. It's available at multiple locations but seems a good deal at **Target** on sale for **\$179**, down from **\$219**.



Exo Terra Nano Terrarium — What kid doesn't love reptiles or amphibians? This housing, designed by herpetologists, has front-opening doors to allow easy access, front-window ventilation, and a natural background included. The downside is you will also be buying and caring for a reptile or amphibian, probably by Dec. 26. Get that new family member at **Pet Supplies Plus** or **Petco**. The terrarium is widely available online but also at **Trilby Tropicals**, 4853 Monroe St. for **\$42.99**.



DBK Express and DBK Equinox adjustable quad roller skates — Old school is new school. Boys and girls love to skate. **Dick's Sporting Goods** at Franklin Park Mall has just a few quads in stock but a large selection of inline skates. The DBK comes in pink and black. **\$64.99**

Interactive Toy Concepts Triumph RC Helicopter — For kids 12 and up, boy or girl, this gift rocks. This indoor/outdoor remote control helicopter has dual counter-rotating rotors, internal gyroscope technology, and digital proportional controls for stability. Basically, it flies up/down, left/right, and forward/backward. Get it at **RadioShack** on sale for **\$59.99**, down from **\$69.99**.



Give a **Build-A-Bear Workshop** experience for the younger kids — If you have never taken your little one to Build-A-Bear, part of the fun of getting something there is picking it out and going through the ceremony of making one and going home with the oversized box that looks like a teddy bear home. The stuffed toys themselves start at about \$10 and accessories run extra. This is the one time a gift card under the tree might be worth it — along with a promised trip to the **Build-A-Bear Workshop** at Franklin Park Mall in West Toledo. **\$55** should be enough for a wonderful time. Super Chill Pengy the Penguin comes for **\$18** but decking him out in his favorite outfit will increase the cost to almost **\$54**.



▲ **The Art Supply Depo** owner Jules Webster said kids love her classes at 29 South St. Clair St. in the Warehouse District. One of the best things about the classes is that the mess stays at the store when the artwork goes home. After Christmas class schedules will be listed at **artsupplydepo.com**. If you want to do a pre-Christmas gift, get there at noon or 2 p.m. today for **Kids Gingerbread Cabin Class**. **\$15**.



▲ If you have the room and the nerves, consider the **BouncePro 14-foot Trampoline with Steel Flex Enclosure and Electron Shooter**. This set has padded poles for extra protection, UV-resistant netting, and a steel-cabled ring top for additional support to the enclosure. Kids have gotten hurt on trampolines but most do not and it's great fun. **Walmart: \$209**



▲ **Infinity Lights** are self-assemble lampshades that come in a variety of shapes and colors. Cool lighting for a cool kids' room. Shop online at **www.infinitylights.com** or better yet, go to **Imagination Station** downtown or the **Semers Gold, Sports & More** kiosk at Franklin Park Mall. They start at **\$19.95**. The LED bulb costs another **\$14.95**.

* Prices and availability subject to change