

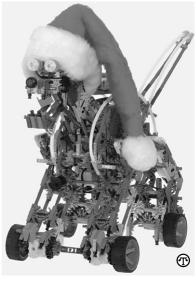
## **Creativity With High-Tech And Low-Tech Toys**

(NAPSA)—For most Americans, the holidays are a time to share. to do things as a family. A variety of gifts help make this possible, starting with toys and gadgets that children (even those with beards and mortgages) can build.

For example, a new building system lets kids put together models that "come to life" with distinct personalities that can be programmed. The sets—called Cyber-K'NEX—come complete with everything creative minds need to build, animate and control these vehicles, creatures and robots even programming the robots to speak in the kids' own voices. Available kits include Hyper Wheels 2.0 (\$49.99), Cybots 2.0 (\$79.99) and CyberK'NEX Ultra 2.0 (\$129.99).

Another popular example is the MechWarrior construction set, based on the famous computer game series, that kids can use to create high-tech robot replicas. Built for battle and armed to defend, these robots have the kind of features that children love, including firing foam missiles and armor panels. Each of the three sets—Shadow Cat (\$19.99), Cauldron Born (\$19.99) and Mad Cat (\$29.99)—builds two different models.

Another way to get on track for family fun and excitement is K'NEX's Screamin' Serpent Roller Coaster (\$89.99). The world's smallest working roller coaster comes with 23 feet of track and. when assembled, stands three feet high and six feet long. An infrared sound sensor sends forth the screams of excited riders as the coaster flies around the track. punctuated by the "click...click...



"Some assembly required" can mean hours of fun this holiday season.

click" of the motorized climbing action. The brightly colored, railhugging cars ascend toward the heavens, then plunge back to earth to enter a zero-gravity loop.

For those seeking a low-tech gift, consider an adventurous twist on an all-time favorite. Lincoln Logs are one of the most timetested toys ever created—a great choice for any aspiring architect. Now there's Lincoln Logs Saw Mill Express railroad play set (\$69.99), with a four-car train, silver-rail track, log milling station and magic splitting logs. The set also has colorful action figures to enhance the whole building experience.

All four of these exciting holiday gift ideas can be found at toy stores. For more information, visit www.knex.com or call 1-800-KID-KNEX.