Dr. Ken's Corner

Games Help Preschoolers Learn To Match And Share

by Dr. Ken Condrell, Ph.D. Child Psychologist

(NAPSA)—Educational games. The term might sound like an oxymoron, but as a child psychologist, I know how integral educational games can be when used to help preschool-aged children develop motor, language and cognitive skills that they will carry throughout their lives.

I recently came across three educational games that will help young children to feel successful while building their self-confidence through skills that they will use everyday. These games are based on the principles of fun and learning with the goal of aiding young children as they grow and learn.

Screwy Looey is an unpredictable drill with a silly personality. In this game, kids help Screwy Looey get all of his bolts back into his clubhouse before he gets too tired. Players squeeze his front teeth to get him to twist and turn. Screwy Looey hiccups and vrooms, giggles and yawns. In this beatthe-clock game, kids practice motor skills while learning to form socialemotional bonds through sharing.

Based on the successful toy line that teaches kids about real-life heroes, the Fisher-Price Rescue Heroes Pet Rescue Game lets youngsters experience the adventure of being a rescue hero. The pet hospital is on fire and the



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players' mission is to save the pets and reach the top of the hospital where a helicopter is waiting to take the pets to safety.

Curious kids can have fun learning about the world with the Dora the Explorer Play Park Adventure Game. In this game, Dora is on an adventure to Play Park with her friends. Players twirl the spinner to move ahead in order to reach Play Park—solving puzzles and learning Spanish words along the way. It is an exciting and different journey every time kids play and the first one to reach Play Park wins.

To learn more about these and other educational games from Fisher-Price, visit the Web site at www.fisher-price.com.