



Portrait by Lisa Golightly



Take a walk through ModernKid. pg 19



21 tips to help your family go green. pg 27



Chicago's kid-friendly attractions. pg 23

CHICAGO

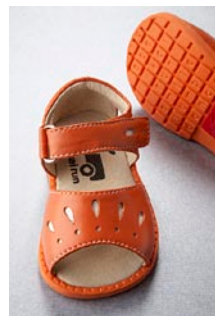


Messy Mites. pg 31

New colourful toys to PLAY with. pg 7



PLAY



Small shoes with BIG personalities. pg 13

# Welcome

We are heading into my favourite part of the year. As September approaches I will be busy making plans for my son's birthday party. We always celebrate BIG – birthdays are very special in our family! There's always lots to organise but I enjoy making it all come together. This year my son has briefed me to make a Pink Hot Wheels Princess cake! I'll let you know in the next issue if I managed to pull that one off...

Photographer Monika Elena shares her daughter's 1st birthday with us on page 33. A charming Sugar & Spice themed celebration.

We've got two travel stories for you in this issue. Covering two great cities – Vancouver and Chicago. I visited Vancouver recently and had a wonderful time exploring their great city. I met with Shana Duffy, founder of the ethereal online boutique *Enfant Terrible*. She has such distinctive taste in recognising artists who offer something unique for children! Shana joins us this issue with a regular column showcasing artists and designers who are part of *Enfant Terrible's* collection. See page 11.

We also feature the very talented artist and mother Lisa Golightly. Lisa very kindly agreed to do a portrait of me and my son for this column. You can see it above. Thank you again Lisa.

We have introduced clickable ads in this issue to help you see some of the great products our advertisers have to offer you. You'll be able to visit their websites without losing your place in LMNOP. Just click on the ad and it will link you straight through to the website while our magazine stays on your desktop.

Have fun.

**Jenny Lacey**  
Editor

# lmnop

LAUGH • MAKE • NURTURE • ORGANISE • PLAY

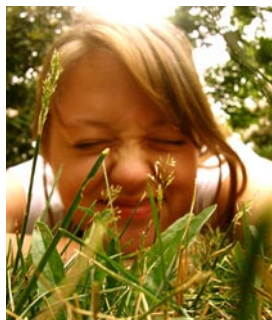
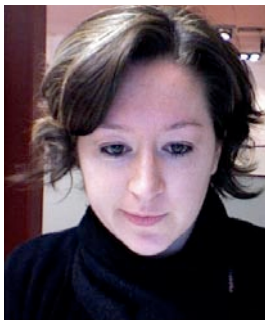


Sienna  
Photographed by Ian MacPherson

## LMNOP CONTRIBUTORS

**KATE FENWICK** | WRITER

*Your favourite letter of the alphabet and why?* S, because every time you write it, it looks different and I had to go to speech therapy to actually pronounce it as a child. *Were you a tree climber or a reader?* As much as I loved my books, I could regularly be found up the tree in the front yard with my imagination. *How would your parents describe you as a child?* Loud and a challenge. If I came with a receipt they would have taken me back! *Favourite childhood toy? And do you still have it?* My teddy Bianca was always a treasured possession, now sadly residing in a storage box somewhere with Rainbow Brite. *Favourite book growing up?* Enid Blyton's *Magic Faraway Tree* took me to some amazing places.



**ALLI COATE** | ILLUSTRATOR

*Your favourite letter of the alphabet and why?* My favourite letter is A for my name. I remember feeling bad for the letter N because it was so similar to M, but always had to go second. *A childhood activity you wish you could still do?* I wish I could still ride on my Daddy's shoulders. *Favourite childhood toy? And do you still have it?* My stuffed Mickey Mouse. And yes, I still have him! I also still have my father's favourite stuffed animal from when he was a baby. It's very special to me. *Favourite book growing up?* One of my favourites was *Little Women* by Louisa May Alcott. It was one of the biggest books in our school library, and I remember checking it out over and over again until I finally finished it.

**SONYA CHOE MILLER** | FEATURES EDITOR

*Your favourite letter of the alphabet and why?* J - I loved writing capital J's in cursive. *Name a favourite childhood game?* "Say Say O'Playmate" hand clapping games. *Were you a tree climber or a reader?* Both. *A childhood activity you wish you could still do?* Eat cookies all day. *Favourite childhood toy? And do you still have it?* A white woolly lamb that I carried everywhere, but it's nowhere to be found today. *Favourite book growing up?* *The Boxcar Children* by Gertrude Chandler Warner. How cool to decorate and live in a boxcar.



**JENNIFER WARD** | FEATURES EDITOR

*Your favourite letter of the alphabet and why?* The letter A because it's the leader and it's what you use to speak of things... a bed, a toy, a child. Without it, we would be lost. *Were you a tree climber or a reader?* Tree climber for sure. I have often been dubbed an "adventure seeker." I love reading but I find it hard to sit still. *A childhood activity you wish you could still do?* Cartwheels. *How would your parents describe you as a child?* Creative, strong willed and ambitious. *Favourite childhood toy? And do you still have it?* Lincoln logs. I don't have the original set any longer but they do still make them. *Favourite book growing up?* *Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs* by Judi-Barrett.



## ON THE COVER

Sienna wears Flowerbed dress in brown with removable flower, *Buisjes En Beugels* +++, **69.95 EUR**, [buisjesenbeugels.nl](http://buisjesenbeugels.nl). Limote tights, *Big by Fiona Scanlan*, **\$14.95**, and Moroccan ballet flat, *Zid Zid*, **\$46.95**, *My Messy Room*, (02) 9798 3233. Photographed by Ian MacPherson.



You and your friends could design your very own bed set, and be in a chance to win some seriously cool prizes.. so get drawing!!

**you'll find all the details at [kideko.com/kids](http://kideko.com/kids)**

Get busy...entries close **15 October 2008**.

**kideko**

Bedroom style for modern kids.

## BEST DRESSED

This month LMNOP attended the opening of Sydney's new must-see Arabella Boutique. An exquisite emporium filled with must-have classics – dressing baby and child. Owner Marianna O'Sullivan has thoughtfully selected some of Europe's most sophisticated childrenswear brands. One of them being London's current darling – Caramel. An elegant, yet playful collection of clothing made with luxurious cottons, wool and cashmere. A trip to Arabella's is guaranteed to leave you wanting more.

**Arabella Boutique, 117 Jersey Road, Woollahra, Sydney**  
(02) 9362 8155, [arabellaboutique.com.au](http://arabellaboutique.com.au)



Children's Rooms  
'Stockholm', 'Paris' & 'London', \$35.42  
Kinokuniya Bookstore, [kinokuniya.com](http://kinokuniya.com)

## MySpace

Jeu de Paume is a small group of Japanese publishers that work with artists and designers in Europe to explore their creative work and living spaces. They have recently published a series of books documenting children's rooms in London, Paris and Stockholm. These colourful books celebrate spaces that children inhabit and are full of inspiration to create your own nostalgic indoor playground. LMNOP has a copy of *Children's Rooms, Stockholm* to give away. Send us a photo of your child's favourite space and the team at LMNOP will pick the winner. Email your photo to [competition@lmnop.com.au](mailto:competition@lmnop.com.au) Competition closes 3 November, 2008.

## Once-A-Year

Mothers are busy people. So it's hard to find the time to create precious keepsakes of your child growing up.

Kasia Jacquot, a mum herself understood this, so she created a clever book that allows you to keep a written and pictorial record of your little one's childhood, with minimal fuss. Make an entry just once a year. All you need is one photo for each year of your child's life and a few minutes to write a brief record of important events that happened that year.

Once completed the concertina pages will give you a beautiful landscape of your child's life so far. Cover designs are inspired by Kasia's Polish roots and are screenprinted in her studio. And the books come with a protective felt pouch, handstitched by Kasia's mum. See, mums are busy people!



Laiikonik, *Once-A-Year* books, \$75  
[laiikonik.com.au](http://laiikonik.com.au)



### WORDLESS WAVES

*Wave* needs absolutely no words to tell the universal story of a day at the beach and of new found friendship. A simple picture book, beautifully illustrated in only two shades of watercolour – Artist Suzy Lee captures the ‘catch-me if you can’ game that children often play with the ocean.

**Wave by Suzy Lee, Chronicle Books, \$24.95, My Messy Room, (02) 9798 3233**

### BABIES LOVE CINOS

Katrina Thomson has written a new book for the café set who indulge in babycinos when out with their mums. *I Love My Babycinos* teaches these trend setters about the days of the week, differences and opposites. And that drinking milk is good for growing bones!

**By Katrina Thomson, \$9.95**  
[ilovemybabycinos.com.au](http://ilovemybabycinos.com.au)



### TAKE-AWAY FAMILY

Order your very own custom tailored family of four or however many you like. Delicately hand painted and varnished with non-toxic materials. Measuring at just 1" to 3.5" in height.

**Goose Grease, \$US58, (pet not included)**  
[goosegrease.etsy.com](http://goosegrease.etsy.com)



# Meet Georgia Boyd

CHARLIE AND HEIDI'S MUM

To see how this busy mum makes kids' parties fun, pull up a chair at her munchkin table.

PHOTOGRAPHED BY Ian MacPherson



*A perfect opportunity to set out Munchkin Tables and Chairs – Charlie's 5th birthday! Munchkin Tables also offers the hire of themed tablecloths and fun chair decorations.*



**I couldn't live without**

Coffee from the Bacino Boys, after an early morning walk.



**What we're reading at the moment**

The Wonderful Wizard of Oz by L. Frank Baum. A childhood favourite of mine which seems to be just as special for Charlie and Heidi.



**When I have 30 minutes to myself**

Undoubtedly a walk with some good music and fresh air to gather my thoughts for the day ahead.

LMNOP: How were you inspired to start your business?

GB: I realised there was a gap in smart party hire equipment of tables and chairs when I was planning Heidi's birthday. I combined the idea of tables and chairs with hand-crafted tablecloths.

LMNOP: What's your most popular party theme?

GB: Equally the girly themes – tea party, fairy and princess. I think they may also be influenced by the Mums who just love the pom-pom fringed tablecloths – they are so pretty and feminine!

LMNOP: What advice would you give to other mums trying to start a business?

GB: If it is secondary to your 9-5 job (as this is to me), it helps to have a supportive husband and the preparedness to get your hands dirty! There's a lot to learn about running your own business and the initial stages are key to its future success. The more you do-it-yourself, the better understanding you have of its operation.

LMNOP: How do you juggle your business with motherhood?

GB: Because the business is primarily weekend-based, we involve the kids which allows them to feel like they play a role in it and makes us feel like we're not being torn away from them. Charlie is particularly involved ... he comes up with a different theme almost every week! So there are a lot of new boys' themes coming up!

LMNOP: What's your biggest challenge as a mum?

GB: At this stage and age of Charlie and Heidi - getting through the 'witching hour' each day!

LMNOP: What do you, Charlie and Heidi like to do together?

GB: Our weekends don't go by without a walk together at the beach (Balmoral) with our coins to toss in the wishing well.

LMNOP: The best piece of advice you'll ever give to your children?

GB: Challenge yourself ... life will be more interesting.

**Munchkin Tables, [munchkintables.com.au](http://munchkintables.com.au)**

Photographed by IAN MACPHERSON

## No baking necessary

Serve up these cakes on a rainy afternoon for some endless fun. Twinkle Kids make delicious, festive felt cakes which you can decorate yourself. No messy icing to spread – just use the felt decorations and stick them to your three-tiered felt cake. These heavenly cakes arrive in a gleaming white cake box tied with bakers twine. Felt decorations included.

**Carnival Cake, US\$50, Exclusive to Mahar Drygoods, mahardrygoods.com**  
**Garden Cake, US\$59, Baby Cake, US\$24, Happy B'day Word Decoration Pack, US\$15, Twinkle Kids, twinkle-kids.com**





**STACKS OF FUN**

A beautiful 9 piece stacking toy. Make her as tall or as short as you like!

**Bajo, \$62.95, Monkey Puzzle**  
(02) 9799 7101



**STITCH HAPPY**

Clauss and Perry, two hand-screenprinted animals on canvas are an easy "learn to sew" project and come with a special name tag. Each animal approximately 9"x 8".

**Egg Press, US\$26 each**  
eggress.com



**MONEY IN THE MIDDLE**

Watch your savings grow in this wooden piggy bank. He'll keep your coins safe behind a plastic window held by screws until you're ready to empty and fill him again.

**Bajo, \$49, Monkey Puzzle**  
(02) 9799 7101



**MAGNA-TILES**

Nurture the modern architect in you. Flat geometric shapes that snap together with magnets let you create 3-dimensional buildings.

**Valtech Co, \$89.90**  
teaching.com.au



**FLOWER CHAINS**

Felted flowers bring a bloom to any occasion. Hang these for a party, draped over a curtain rod. Or use them as a table decoration. No water necessary and they won't wilt.

**Papoose, US\$35, Monkey Puzzle, (02) 9799 7101**



**WONDERFUL COMPANIONS**

Each one of these unique animals is made from vintage felted wool. Sure to become a cherished favorite, these little friends are as soft and cuddly as they are adorable. An earth-friendly alternative to the traditional stuffed animal.

**Wonderlamb**, C\$59 each  
[wonderlamb.com](http://wonderlamb.com)

**THE BIGGEST CATCH**

Let your little fisher catch and haul a rainbow of fish on this wooden boat. This stacking toy introduces colours, shapes and patterns.

**Glückskäfer**, \$64.95  
*Monkey Puzzle, (02) 9799 7101*



**TIN WHEELS**

Go back in time with these tin wheels. Cars have a tow-hook to pull the camper. And the camper opens to reveal a small living space. The garage accomodates two cars. The camper will have to stay in the driveway!

**Kovap**, Garage \$21.95, Mercedes Coupe & Convertible Cabrio \$18.95 each, Caravan \$26.95, [kidostore.com](http://kidostore.com)



**CATCHING SUN RAYS**

Explore the basics of photography. Each kit includes 12 4" x 4" photo sheets and a plexiglass overlay. You provide the found objects and wait for a sunny day to create original artwork.

**Larence Hall of Science**, US\$4.95  
[lawrencehallofscience.stores.yahoo.net/sunprintkits.html](http://lawrencehallofscience.stores.yahoo.net/sunprintkits.html)



**SOAP STACKS**

Translucent cylinders of 100% vegetable glycerin soap are as much fun as they are functional. Just rub the sticks between your hands to work up some good clean fun. Available in 6 different scents and colors.

**Arizona Soapworks**, US\$6.75 for 6  
[arizonasoapworks.com](http://arizonasoapworks.com)



**INDOOR SANDBOX**

Bring in the outdoors with this 10" x 10" x 2" tabletop sandbox. Monster Truck shown here lets kids drive, rake and shovel. Some other kits include Beach Party and Funny Farm. Great for apartment dwellers limited to small outdoor spaces.

**Be Good Company**, US\$24.95, [fatbraintoy.com](http://fatbraintoy.com)



**FAT BRAIN**

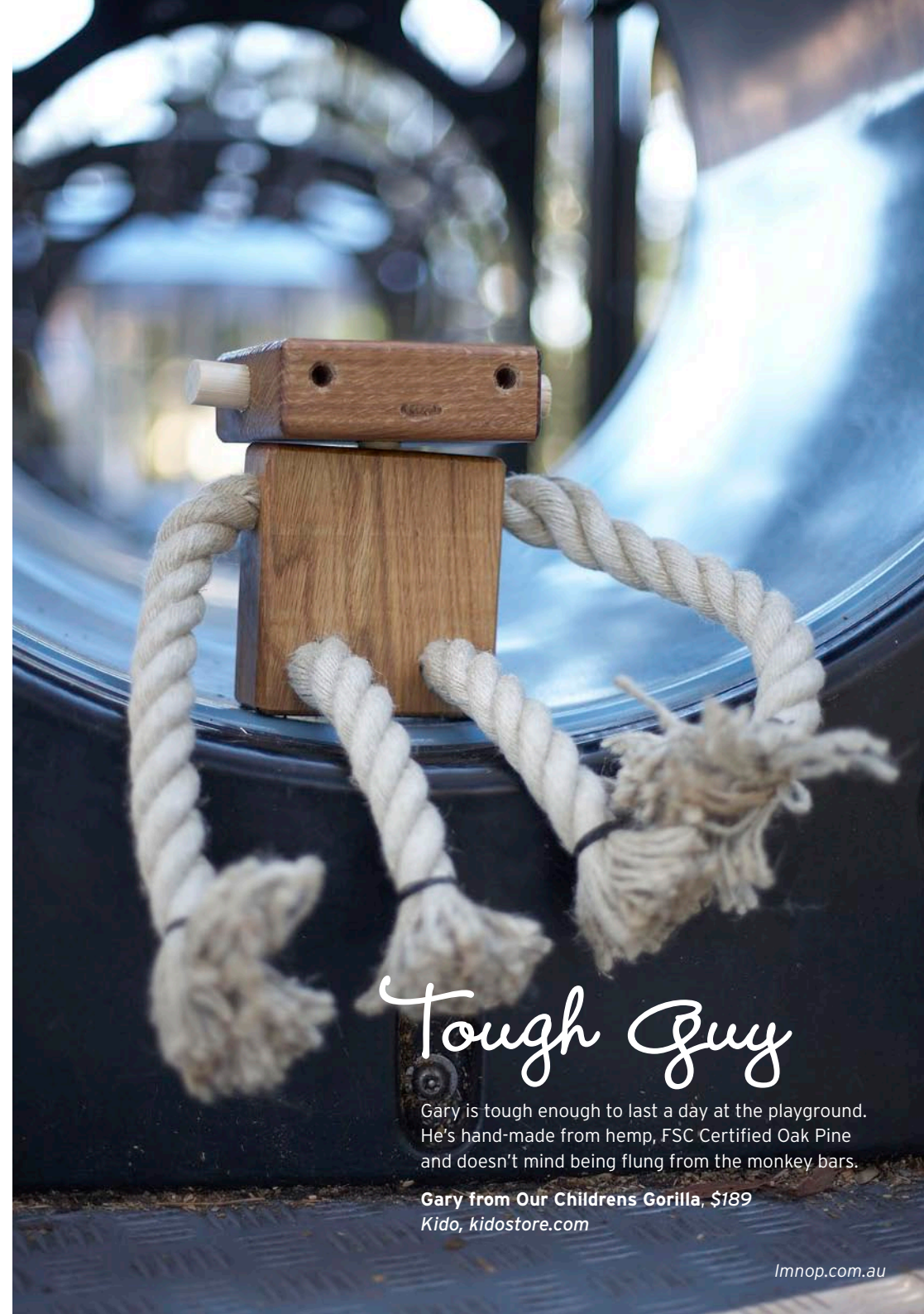


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[www.kidostore.com](http://www.kidostore.com)

Kido Store 159 Clovelly Rd Clovelly NSW 2031



## Tough Guy

Gary is tough enough to last a day at the playground. He's hand-made from hemp, FSC Certified Oak Pine and doesn't mind being flung from the monkey bars.

Gary from Our Childrens Gorilla, \$189  
Kido, [kidostore.com](http://kidostore.com)

## Musical ball

Hidden inside this perfectly made, solid wooden ball is a mechanism that produces one of Mozart's sweet melodies. Insert the elegantly shaped key, turn it and the chime will magically play whether the ball is rolling across the floor or standing on a table as an ornament. This splendid sphere will be the perfect, unique gift for the newborn that has everything.

**Mozartkugel by Siebensachen, \$149**  
Monkey Puzzle, (02) 9799 7101





Text by **KATE FENWICK**

## ESCAPE TO WHIMSICAL WOODLAND

From super cute onesies to adorable owls, Jennifer Talbot's art takes many shapes and forms. The latest venture with her company b.delicious is custom interior design using interactive features and matching décor.

After graduating from art school, Jennifer spent ten years exploring the dimensions of exhibition installations, although her plans expanded along with her belly when she heard the pitter patter of little feet.

Her recent work designing custom bedrooms for children is by far the most unique and innovative. The 'Woodland Project' demonstrates her ability to blend interior design and art to create a magnificent garden befitting any princess chambers. She uses an array of earthy fabrics, colours, textures and shapes that both play off each other and beg for you to play with them, especially her series of wise owls that appear regularly in her work.

With plans to expand her playroom designs into more niche markets, it won't be long before you can have your own personal woodland garden growing near you.

For details contact *Jennifer Talbot* at [info@bdelicious.com](mailto:info@bdelicious.com)



NO. 1:

Text by **SHANA DUFFY**

## SONJA AHLERS FOR ENFANT TERRIBLE

### *The Fierce Bunny Collection*

The collection by Sonja Ahlers is composed of a trio of captivating bunnies hand made of vintage deconstructed angora and lambswool.

When my daughter met her fierce bunny, a gorgeous creature made of hand dyed pale grey Italian angora found by Sonja's mum at a charity shop in Canada, she stroked her body chattering 'what long dancing arms'.

These bunnies are both an art piece and beloved creature and with love might become a part of a family story. The fierce bunny collection by Sonja Ahlers is exclusive to enfant terrible.

**Enceinte (expecting) Mummy Bunny, by Sonja Ahlers, C\$160, [enfantterribleshop.com](http://enfantterribleshop.com)**




Image by Ian MacPherson - Nomad Jacket, Ittybitypuppy.com.au



  
**baby's got style  
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**We ship our too cool for pre-school brands (newborn to size 8) worldwide!  
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amazing gifts and accessories.**



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130 **NEW** design & colour choices  
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mooo.com.au

Photographed by IAN MACPHERSON



## Pint-size Superheros

These Little Hero Super Capes have been taking the world by storm! Finally you can rescue your kitchen dishtowels and dress your wonder child in something more befitting a superhero. Superbly handcrafted in colourful satins, choose from a myriad of designs or have one custom-made with your child's initial on the back. Power cuffs and masks have recently been added to the collection and are now available in Australia at Monkeytail and Wellington. These capes are super fun and packed with lots of WOW!

Little Hero Super Capes, US\$35, [discoverydenim.etsy.com](https://www.discoverydenim.etsy.com) Matching powercuffs and masks (not shown), from \$8.95, [monkeytailandwellington.com.au](https://www.monkeytailandwellington.com.au)



"Bubble is full of new, fresh brands from around the world. The perfect trade show to find something different, to freshen up my store. Love the selection!"

**Jessica Hirschlein**  
**Citibabes**

**Upcoming Dates:**  
BUBBLE London Jan, 2009  
BUBBLE NEW NYC March, 2009

For more information visit  
[bubbletradeshows.com](http://bubbletradeshows.com)

## Bubble-icious

Bubble is a trade-only event which attracts retailers, buyers and media from around the world. Each event is carefully conceived as a focused trade show, where retailers can meet exhibitors. On show is a global mix of fashion and toy brands.

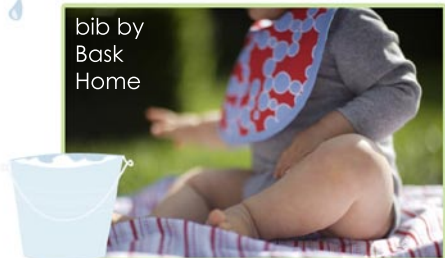
Bubble New York hosted it's 6th edition at Terminal Stores in Chelsea on 8 August, 2008. Retailers, buyers and media from around the world gathered at Bubble to seek out the latest kids' fashion, home décor, toys and accessories. Look forward to seeing their finds in stores soon or check out the exhibitors for yourself at [bubbletradeshows.com](http://bubbletradeshows.com)

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# sookie baby

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[www.sookiebaby.com](http://www.sookiebaby.com)

# baobab



beautiful basics for  
babies and kids 0-6  
[baobab.com.au](http://baobab.com.au)

# shoe personality



### baby side tie:

A couture classic. Made of 100% vegetable-tanned Italian lambskin and handstitched with yellow stitching. May include imprint of baby's name. **C\$206**,  
**Georgina Goodman**,  
[enfantterribleshop.com](http://enfantterribleshop.com)

raeden:

Exclamation points all  
the way! **\$64.95, See  
Kai Run, seekairun.  
com/storefinder**



moroccan  
ballet flat:

Handmade 100%  
leather shoe with  
sequined starburst  
design on the toes.  
**\$46.95, Zid Zid,  
My Messy Room  
(02) 9798 3233**



heidi walks:

Baby and toddler shoe.  
No seamline and hand-  
made from one piece  
of leather. **\$41.95, All  
About Heidi, My Messy  
Room, (02) 9798 3233**



closed shoe:

Made of 100% vegetable-  
tanned Italian leather and  
Gucio's signature yellow  
sole. **C\$72, Gucio,  
enfantterribleshop.com**

sean:

Gray and white  
sneaker. **\$69.95, See  
Kai Run, seekairun.  
com/storefinder**



bent:

Jelly bean green and  
grey bowler with black  
tyres. **\$69.95, See Kai  
Run, seekairun.com/  
storefinder**



If you are travelling to Paris with children ages 2-7, there are many magnificent parks, playgrounds, and museums, to captivate your family. Having recently taken a trip with my daughter, the highlight of our trip was spending the day at Parc de la Villette. Located in the 19th, bordering Seine-Saint-Denis, this is the largest park in the city of Paris. One of many appealing features of this park is the Cité des Sciences et de l'Industrie: the biggest science museum in Europe. In December of 2007, they opened The Children's Cité – Next Generation for Small Children.



*There are 90-minute sessions that you and your child can enjoy. While we were waiting for our session to begin we caught a free 3-D movie about ocean life.*



*Once our session began, it was 90 minutes of pure bliss. One area that was of interest was about scale and size. Not only was I blown away by the aesthetic, the concept of scale and size was executed perfectly.*

on paris by Jennifer Ward



Composed of 5 thematic structure areas, a child can literally go wild here. There are touch squares, mirror huts for quiet contemplation, gears to assemble, stories to recompose, boats to float, dandelions to blow at, tightrope walkers, jumping jacks to direct, cars to build and mazes to tackle.



*Images by Tom Tinervin*



We spent most of the time at the children's only building site. Every child puts on their hard hat and safety jacket and they work together to build a house. Filled with wheel barrels, bricks, a conveyor belt and cranes, this worksite provides children with a real sense of teamwork and accomplishment.

Being some-what of a design snob as well as a designer for children's spaces, Children's Cité blew me away. The design flawless, the consideration of children on point and a location settled on foot of an amazing Parisian park – to that I say magnifique et superbe!

To read more from Minor Details, visit [www.minordetails.typepad.com](http://www.minordetails.typepad.com)

**Cité des Sciences et de l'Industrie is located at: 30, avenue Corentin-Cariou - 75019 Paris. Open Tuesday to Saturday, 10am to 6pm.**

# Backyard fun

Meet Audrey. She has the sweetest stitched face. Rosy cheerful cheeks and likes to wear her felt hair in pig tails. Audrey's a busy rag doll. She enjoys going on vacation, visits to the library, attending Shakespeare festivals and one of her favourite past times is running through the sprinkler. As shown here! If you like to do any of these activities and are looking for a companion, she's the girl for you. When she arrived at LMNOP headquarters, she wore a tag that said 'Hello! I'm Audrey runs through the sprinkler. Thanks for choosing me!'

**Audrey runs through the sprinkler, US\$55**  
*Little Big Pants, [littlebigpants.etsy.com](http://littlebigpants.etsy.com)*



Text by JENNY LACEY



**Above:** Ugly Doll Bop n' Beep. Uglydoll, C\$31

**Below:** Stackable Bilibos in ModernKid's window. Bilibo, C\$36. Enzo Mari's Pop Orange chair, Magis Seggiolina, C\$95.00. Hand-knitted dolls, Blabla, C\$46.00 each



**Left:** Limited edition, wood alphabet apple created by local artist, Dale Nigel Goble. Hang or set to rest against the wall on a side table. DNG, C\$250

**Below left:** Strollers are parked beneath an indoor forest of trees



**Below:** ModernKid carries the Monte Cubino. A kid's chair you won't need to hide when guests arrive! It's made of thick, durable foam and is covered with a soft polyester two-tone colour canvas. Sturdy, lightweight and extra comfortable. Monte, from C\$90



**Above:** A selection of unique gifts at ModernKid

**Left:** Trebimbi 3 piece utensils sets. Rivadossi, C\$28. Babal balls – 2 balls in one. Babal, C\$28

**Below left:** Blabla kids sit in a built-in naughty chair custom-made for ModernKid's counter. Blabla Kids, C\$46

**Below right:** Screen printed wall art. Dwell Studio, C\$90. Eco-friendly modular carpet tiles. Flor, POA



## A Modern Take on Kids

I took a trip to Vancouver recently and had it on good advice that ModernKid, located in the beautiful historic neighborhood of Gastown was the store to hit if one was searching for beautifully designed modern products for kids (0-6yrs) and parents.

Owners Dorothy Reehal and Kerry Koodoo sourced a comprehensive collection of high quality, thoughtfully designed, visually interesting and innovative products from around the world. As parents of small children themselves, they searched everywhere for toys, furniture and accessories that would integrate well within modern homes. ModernKid is Vancouver's one-stop resource for all things modern for your little ones and eye candy for the modern parent.

**Modern Kid, 45 Water Street, Vancouver BC, Canada  
604 662 3181, modernkid.com**



# CELEBRATING text



**The Regional Assembly of Text**  
3934 Main St, Vancouver BC  
604 877 2247, [assemblyoftext.com](http://assemblyoftext.com)

Brandy Fedoruk and Rebecca Dolen, have created a unique store filled with vintage file cabinets, manual typewriters and merchandise that celebrates the printed word. They carry stationery sets, cards, buttons, t-shirts, iron-on patches and journals. You can sign up for a letter writing class or the One Button A Month Club to receive by mail, exactly that – one button per month! Definitely worth a visit.



# CITY TOUR VANCOUVER

## Shop

**Chachkas**  
2423 Granville St, 604 688 6417  
[chachkas.ca](http://chachkas.ca)

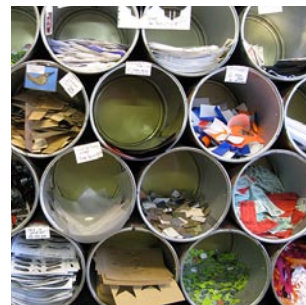
Pick up a Matt & Nat handbag and drool over a fine selection of Me & Ro jewellery.

**Knotty Toys**  
Kids Market Granville Island  
1496 Cartwright St  
604 683 7854, [knottytoys.com](http://knottytoys.com)

A store dedicated to bringing you the world's best selection of wooden toys. They have a great collection of wooden letters and toys that you didn't know still existed.

**Urban Source**  
3126 Main St, 604 875 1611  
[urbansource.bc.ca](http://urbansource.bc.ca)

Manufacturing discards are stocked in large barrels and sold in bulk to the public at this popular neighbourhood drop-in. A great resource for budding artists, teachers, and families. Fill a brown paper bag as high as you can and take home for crafting.



Fill up a bag at Urban Source

## Eat

**Cafe Medina**  
556 Beatty St, Crosstown  
604 879 3114, [medinacafe.com](http://medinacafe.com)

Warm waffles served all day. With toppings like Lavendar milk chocolate, Raspberry caramel, Pistachio white chocolate and Mixed berry compote.

**Little Nest**  
1716 Charles St, 604 251 9994  
[littlenest.ca](http://littlenest.ca)

A parent-friendly café off Commercial Drive. A great play area stocked with clean books and toys. And a reasonably priced menu offering local and organic fare.

**Picnic**  
3010 Granville St, Vancouver  
604 732 4405

It's hard to walk past this bakery café without being tempted by the rather large heavenly cakes and cookies in the window. They do not disappoint! Located next to Meinhardt supermarket.



Me & Ro, Baby Cut Out Pendant from Chachkas

## Sleep

**Times Square Suites**  
200-1821 Robson St,  
604 684 2223,  
[timesquaresuites.com](http://timesquaresuites.com)

Times Square Suites is the perfect home away from home for families visiting Vancouver. The suites are spacious and clean. Each has a fully equipped kitchen along with a washer and dryer to save trips to the local laundromat. Cots are also available if travelling with infants. Located in the heart of downtown. A Capers supermarket within walking distance as well as Vancouver's famous Stanley Park.

## Play

**Stanley Park**  
Main entrance at the west end of Georgia St  
[city.vancouver.bc.ca](http://city.vancouver.bc.ca)

Truly one of the great parks of the world! An evergreen oasis of 400 hectares. Family attractions include an antique fire engine, horse-drawn carriage rides, and lots of playgrounds.



Waffles in Cafe Medina's window

*Beautifully packaged unique gifts for kids*

**Exciting online store**  
Gifts for **Newborn** to **Teenage**  
Delivery **Australia-wide**

[www.gifts4kidz.com.au](http://www.gifts4kidz.com.au)

**red poppy**

**Modern collection of tees for infants + toddlers**

pick the coolest baby tee!  
from a collection of contemporary brands

Lucky Fish • Fauna  
Smitten • Class  
Eight3One • Decaf Plush  
Glug • Zee Spot • Nix

**Opening Sept 1<sup>st</sup>**  
[www.redpoppy.ca](http://www.redpoppy.ca)



## kiki & polly

Transform a photograph of your child into a beautiful line art portrait. Mother and artist, Lisa Golightly translates your classic family snapshots into canvas keepsakes, superbly drawn in line art using splashes of colour on warm earthy-toned backgrounds.

Text by **KATE FENWICK**



Lisa created Kiki & Polly after she was inspired by her own desire to capture the dreamy days of her children's adventures and document them in a manner fit for a gallery. The very name speaks of a child's fantastic perspective that can fade with age; Kiki is the nickname bestowed to a local bird by her daughter that appears in their family yard, and Polly is her imaginary best friend.

Lisa's unique portraits transform the transient childhood delights of birthday parties, garden flowers and paper planes into endearing pieces of art, preserving the joy of a moment for a lifetime.

As well as line art, Lisa offers a more "classic" portrait incorporating your child's face on an acrylic painting with your choice of setting. Your little one can star as a sailor on the high seas or jumping puddles in bright gum boots; siblings can share the stage on a tandem bicycle.

To see more of this stunning range, visit [kikiandpolly.com](http://kikiandpolly.com) then send in your child's picture and wait for the magical art world of Kiki & Polly to come to life.





## Mini movies

Smaller than most mobile phones, the remarkable Flip Video Mino camcorder fits neatly into your coat pocket, ready to capture life's tiny moments whenever and wherever they happen. The Flip allows you to capture up to 60 minutes of high-quality video. Then simply plug the camcorder's flip-out USB arm into any PC or Mac for instant editing and sharing. Go on, get one. The online grandparents will love you for it.

**Flip Video Mino**, US\$139.95, [bhphotovideo.com](http://bhphotovideo.com)

**Goose Grease custom painted family**, US\$58, [goosegrease.etsy.com](http://goosegrease.etsy.com)

A large, reflective, spherical sculpture (The Bean) in a city park, surrounded by people and tall buildings. The sculpture is highly polished and reflects the surrounding cityscape, including skyscrapers and a cloudy sky. The ground is paved with light-colored tiles, and many people are walking around the base of the sculpture. The background features several tall, modern buildings with glass facades.

**chicago** serves up families a great vacation

The sprawling city of Chicago offers up some great activities to keep everyone entertained. This will be one family vacation you'll never forget.

The Crown Fountain at Millennium Park

**See**

**Model Railroad Garden**

Chicago Botanic Garden,  
1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe  
phone: 847 835 5440, [chicagobotanic.org/forfamilies/](http://chicagobotanic.org/forfamilies/)  
See a one-of-a-kind Model Railroad, set amid gardens that use miniature plant varieties. Watch model trains wind through mini scenes of America's favourite landmarks.



Model Railroad Garden

**Lincoln Park Zoo**

2001 N. Clark Street, Chicago  
phone: 312 742 2000, [lpzoo.org](http://lpzoo.org)  
When visiting the zoo, make sure you stop and play at Tom and Spenser Luckey's custom-designed climbing structure. It runs about 50 feet horizontally and a manmade tree rises up through the centre.



Chicago Botanic Garden Family Guide

**The Field Museum**

1400 S. Lake Shore Drive, Chicago  
phone: 312 922 9410, [fieldmuseum.org](http://fieldmuseum.org)  
Go see Sue, the largest most complete and preserved *Tyrannosaurus rex* fossil yet discovered, at Chicago's best family museum.



The Field Museum

**Millennium Park**

Michigan Avenue between Madison and Monroe  
[millenniumpark.org](http://millenniumpark.org)  
The Crown Fountain by Spanish artist Jaume Plensa is a must-see! The 50-foot block towers project the faces of 1000 Chicago citizens onto LED screens. Water flows through an outlet in the screen to give the illusion of water sprouting from their mouths.

**Shop**

**Lollie**

1312 Chicago Avenue, Evanston  
phone: 847 328 7303, [lollieshop.com](http://lollieshop.com)  
Colourful jars of candy line the walls of this nostalgic children's boutique. There's a great story book corner and an eclectic mix of childrenswear brands.



Lollie

**Paper Doll**

2048 West Division, Chicago  
phone: 773 227 6950, [paperdollchicago.com](http://paperdollchicago.com)  
Visit the Swett sisters for vintage and modern greeting cards, some quirky treasures and unique gifts.



Paper Doll

**The T-Shirt Deli**

1739 N. Damen, Bucktown  
phone: 773 276 6266, [tshirtdeli.com](http://tshirtdeli.com)  
This deli serves up custom made t-shirts and onesies daily. Pick a shirt, pick a slogan or image and they'll deliver!



Luckey Climber at Lincoln Park Zoo



# WORD from Chicago

# MAHAR DRYGOODS



## THE CLOUD SKIPPER

Children's brooms handcrafted on antique equipment from the 1850s

**SPOOKY HOUSE DECORATING KIT**  
70+ felt decorations magically stick to a gingerbread-style spooky house



**GHASTLY GHOSTS 'Soapsicles'**  
Glow in the dark apparitions and a deliciously mild black licorice scent



**Minnies**  
1969 North Halsted  
Chicago  
312 943 9900  
[minnies.com](http://minnies.com)

**Swirlz Cupcakes**  
705 W. Belden  
Lincoln Park, Chicago  
773 404 2253  
[swirlzcupcakes.com](http://swirlzcupcakes.com)

**TWO-BITES.** Small plate dining is here to stay in The City of Big Shoulders. Some of my favourite two-bite establishments include The Green Zebra for vegetarians, Avec for a Mediterranean shared-table experience, and Minnies for the whole family.

Minnies has the feel of a 1950's soda fountain shop with a modern twist on one of America's most beloved menu items: two-bite sandwiches! Guests order 3, 6 or 12 sandwiches. From Tuna Minnie Melt to Pesto Chicken, the menu is huge.

We settled in with sodas served in small bottles (who knew they came in two gulp sizes?). Our meal arrived on cafeteria-

style trays with a not-so-mini-serving of skinny fries. My girls stuck with the kid favourites: Minnie Cheeseburgers with grilled cheese. My husband and I tried the Mykonos: roast chicken with tzaziki and a Kalamata tempenade on a grilled baguette, and the BBQ Pulled Pork on brioche.

When the bill came, instead of mints we were treated to fun plastic rings scripted with a red letter "M". The kids were delighted with their new "bling".

For dessert, we skipped over to Swirlz, a little bakery with the philosophy that "cupcakes make people happy!". Their Red Velvet and Banana Nutella cupcakes are testament to that!

an emporium of independent and artisan designed wares



# & monkeytail wellington



[www.monkeytailandwellington.com.au](http://www.monkeytailandwellington.com.au)

# Boodalee

*A sweet bedtime tale*



“It all came to me one morning. While putting down my little man for his morning nap, I had an epiphany. Standing there in his picture-perfect nursery, I began to fantasize about designing for the next stage: his big-boy room. As I watched him fade off, nestled snug in his polka-dot, kiddie-couture crib linens, I was struck by a daunting thought, “What the heck kind of bedding are we going to outfit your big-boy bed with?”

Jeanice Skvaril has a background in product and graphic design – and an eye for opportunity. She caught a glimpse of the enemy: licensed characters in children’s bedrooms, stifling their imaginations. So she founded Boodalee. Boodalee, named after her son’s nickname, is her stylish bedding range for “bigger littlies”. The designs are bold and colourful – yet intricate enough to let a child’s imagination soar. Your little dreamer can cosy up to circus friends, take a bedtime space adventure or curl up under a tree amongst squirrels. Available in standard twin and duvet sets in 250-thread-count cotton linens, with drawstring bags to match. Vist [boodalee.com](http://boodalee.com)



LA TORIANA

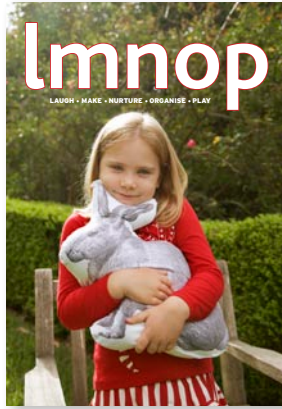
Babies, kids ... and a whole lot more



LaToriana.com.au

lmnop

LAUGH • MAKE • NURTURE • ORGANISE • PLAY



SUBSCRIBE  
**FREE**  
lmnop.com.au

going  
green



Image by Monika Elena

*If we want to preserve the natural beauty of our planet for future generations, we all need to make small changes to help turn things around. Here are a few products we've found that can help make a difference in the home - from a fun shower timer to recycled art and craft. Remember, every step we take to reduce our carbon footprint helps pave a future brighter for our kids.*



**SAVE H2O**

This friendly green turtle will help you keep time in the shower. He's a digital timer, water and steam proof, and his suction cup back will hold to your bathroom tiles.

**Ripple Products, \$19.95**  
rippleproducts.com.au

**FEED HORMONE-FREE**

These bottles are made from a safe, durable plastic called Polyethersulfone which isn't porous or reactive. BPA-free!

**Green to Grow, from \$16.95**  
ecochild.com.au



**SHOW YOUR SUPPORT**

Biodegradable, 'Secret Garden' shoes. Available in size 6-12 mths & 12-18 mths.

**No Added Sugar, \$43.95**  
minifashionista.com.au

fairy  
kisses xx



www.  
fairykisses.  
com.au



# going green



## SLEEP NATURALLY

Lavender and flaxseed filled Babushka dolls to calm little people at bedtime. The perfect size to tuck under a pillow.

**Oopsidaisi, \$12.95**  
latoriana.com.au



## RECYCLED HOMES

Portable, cardboard house. DIY decorating. When you've outgrown this home just recycle it.

**Kidsonroof, \$39, sip.sinot.co.nz**



## GO BIODEGRADABLE

This no-rinse cleanser for hands and little faces is PH balanced, biodegradable and will fit the smallest of purses. Available in three unique scents. Get clean anywhere.

**Momspit, from US\$7**  
momspit.com



## BE A VOICE

Earth-friendly tees made from low impact dyes and methods.

**Tiny Revolutionary, \$38.95**  
kidsgiftlist.com.au



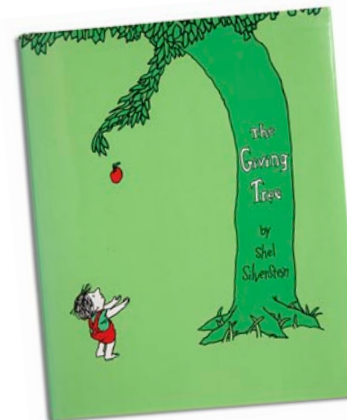
Illustration by Allie Coate



## WHISTLE A HAPPY TUNE

Under a Shady Tree is our favourite child tune on earth.

**Laurie Berkner, US\$12.97**  
amazon.com



## SPREAD THE WORD

This unforgettable classic will remind you that nature is our friend.

**By Shel Silverstein, \$19.95**  
kidostore.com



Text by **JENNY LACEY**

## TASTE NATURE

Certified organic lip balm, made with natural ingredients.

**Oopsidaisi, \$6.95**  
latoriana.com.au



## SAVE TREES

Smencils are gourmet scented pencils made from 100% recycled newspapers. Flavours include Grape, Cherry, Orange and Bubble Gum.

**Smencils, Bag Set \$14.00**  
smencils.com.au

## SEND A MESSAGE

Take an enviro-friendly note to your teacher. Set includes 12 notes, kraft envelopes and seals.

**Imprintables, \$35**  
imprintables.com.au



## BITE FRIENDLY

These teething soothe the teething beast in all babies. Hand-made in the USA with Ohio Maple and finished with certified organic seed oils.

**Little Alouette, from US\$14**  
littlealouette.etsy.com



Image by Monika Elena



## GREEN IDEA

Looking for an environmentally friendly fundraising idea? Smencils (left) are a great way to raise funds, help the environment, and generate real interest by offering something other than chocolates! To order call Smencils on **1300 763 624** or visit **smencils.com.au** for details.

Photographed by IAN MACPHERSON



**BE 100% NATURAL**

Striped layette in 100% all natural cotton.

**Egg by Susan Lazar, \$69.30**  
minifashionista.com.au

**FRESH IS BEST**

These freshly picked crocheted flower and pea baby rattles carry a sweet bell inside.

**Timberdoodles, \$15.95**  
ollierose.com.au



**SUPPORT A GOOD CAUSE**

Support a community of rural women in Zimbabwe who hand knit these exquisite natural cotton blankets.

**Grasshoppers, \$55.95**  
mypoppet.com.au



**REFILL INSTEAD**

Refill a Sigg bottle instead.

**Whole Foods Market, C\$23.99**  
wholefoodsmarket.com



**BE PRESERVATIVE-FREE**

California Baby's Cold & Flu blend works to unblock mucus and ease congestion with a blend of Douglas fir and eucalyptus. Works great in a warm bath. Seriously good stuff!

**California Baby, from US\$10.95**  
californiababy.com

**SAY NO TO PLASTIC**

Carry a handy drawstring bag at all times.

**Whole Foods Market, C\$2.99**, wholefoodsmarket.com



**WEAR ORGANIC**

Gnome t-shirt made with the softest, organic cotton available.

**Little Lark, from \$33.95**  
mypoppet.com.au



**GIVE ORGANIC**

A complete outfit packaged in a recycled kraft gift box! Long sleeve tee & yoga pant gift set.

**Pixel Organics, \$58.95**  
cinnamonbear.com.au



going green

# home-made



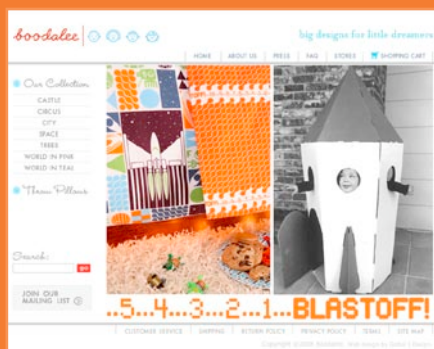
**NATURE PAIL**

Home-made by Riley (with help from mum)  
Age: 4

**Materials used:**  
Empty container  
Lid with a handle  
Pen & paper

Turn off the TV and head on a tour of your neighbourhood. This nature pail will make a long walk interesting. Before you leave the house make a list of items to look for along the way. Anything goes – pebbles, flowers, small sticks and interesting leaves. Wear your walking shoes. You might be gone for a long time!

# online



[www.boodalee.com](http://www.boodalee.com)

Big on imagination, great colours and modern designs, Boodalee is the one-stop shop for children's bedding. Choose from Circus, City, Trees, and World in Pink, just to name a few. Handy fabric swatches of each design give you a close-up view. This feature makes the decision harder because you'll want to stock the hall closet with ALL of them! With throw pillows to match, sets are packaged in reusable drawstring cloth bags made of the same fabric as the items enclosed. So when you receive your order, making beds will feel like child's play.



[www.enfantterribleshop.com](http://www.enfantterribleshop.com)

Step into a stylised French village of building block houses where animated locals gather on this enchanting website. Watch a while as the scene unfolds then hop in to explore. You can download a colour-it-in illustration – a petite distraction for your little ones whilst you fill your cart. You'll find a carefully curated collection of exquisite items, including Tamar Mogendorff's bird cages, a Flora and Henri halter one-piece swimsuit, and Mohr Polster's baby swing. Ooo là là – your cart is full!



[www.mymessyroom.com.au](http://www.mymessyroom.com.au)

If you can't make the trip to Summer Hill to visit Stav Hatchett's My Messy Room, this website will let you take a look inside. You might find yourself picking up a few things and putting them away in your Wish List. Browse the bookshelf, go through the toybox, take a sneak peek at Stav's journal, and check out what's in the wardrobe. Mymessyroom.com.au carries the same great mix of eclectic gifts, stylish fashion, toys and books that the store does. Like hanging out at your best friend's place after school and checking out all their cool stuff, only no one will call out 'It's time to go home!'



[www.eggpress.com](http://www.eggpress.com)

Hooray! The forever expanding range of Egg Press products are now available online. This clever team located in Portland, Oregon, are best known for their hand-made letterpress greeting cards. But they also make elegant calendars, sew-it-yourself stitch kits, limited edition paper doll prints and darling children's tees and onesies. To keep things fresh, Egg Press only offer a limited selection of their products for sale online. Once they sell out, brand new creations fill their place, so don't hesitate if you see something you like. It might not be there when you return!



*Above: Custom-made Kideko floor cushions created for the event. Below: Craft supplies and cupcakes are set out for the afternoon's activities. Bottom centre: Some very creative kids!*



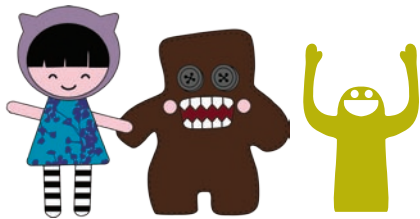
*Right: Shelley and the kids start brainstorming ideas. Bottom right: Kids start drawing up their designs. Kideko's Utility bags filled with take home goodies, and hung from the My Messy Room staircase. Milkshakes arrive in a milk crate! All the kids present their final ideas for Kideko's new collection.*



# Messy Mites

A crafty afternoon at My Messy Room for these creative kids.

PHOTOGRAPHED BY Ian MacPherson



Kideko, a company dedicated to producing modern, stylish bed sets and room accessories for kids are developing a new range. Recognising the importance of involving their young customers, Kideko invited 9 creative kids to a crafty, ideas workshop at Stav Hatchett's My Messy Room. Coloured milkshakes and plenty of cupcakes were on offer to get the creative juices flowing. Lots of themes were explored and the kids had plenty of suggestions about what designs should hit the store shelves next year. When the afternoon wrapped up, everyone left with full tummies and a Kideko Utility bag full of treats.



# WALL ART

*Never before has there been so much choice for what to put on your children's walls. We've brought together some pieces that are sure to brighten up any room.*



**POISSONS**  
Marion Billet  
19.5 x 27.5"  
Picture poster. **59€**,  
laffichemoderne.com



**WALLPAPER PANEL ART**  
Lisa Golightly  
12 x 12"  
A blend of graphic wallpaper and charming handpainted silhouettes. **US\$95**  
kikiandpolly.com



**TRANSPORT**  
Marion Billet  
19.5 x 19.5"  
Picture poster. **59€**,  
laffichemoderne.com



**SQUIRREL ON BOARD**  
Charles S. Anderson Design  
11.25 x 14"  
Pop Ink Decor-a-Boards, made out of birch veneer over MDF board. **\$US28**  
mrfrench.com



**COWBOYS & INDIANS**  
Mandy Sutcliffe  
11 x 14"  
Mounted print. **£35**  
belleandboo.com



**FAMILY TREE**  
Julie Marabelle  
15.7 x 19.6"  
Picture poster that you can customise with your own family photographs. **£45**  
famillesummerbelle.com



**ISAK ABC ALPHABET**  
Sandra Isaksson  
16.5 x 23.5"  
A fun, bright educational poster. **C\$51**  
modernkid.com



**ISAK 1 TO 10**  
Sandra Isaksson  
16.5 x 23.5"  
A stylish counting poster. **\$65**  
kindergallery.com.au



A blurred baby in a high chair is looking towards a cupcake with a lit candle. The cupcake has pink frosting, a dark chocolate base, and a lit white candle on top. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

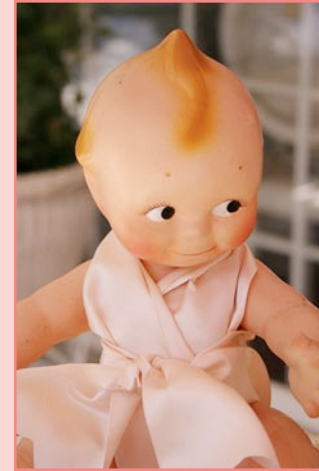
# JULIETTE TURNS

A PHOTO STORY *by* *Monika Elena*

THIS PAGE: My mom owns a French antique shop, so she supplied most of the specialty items: old French pink ribbons, antique glass candy jars, fun containers with whim, teacups, and a beautiful little setting in her midtown apartment. We also draped candy and candy-themed ornaments on a little white tree.

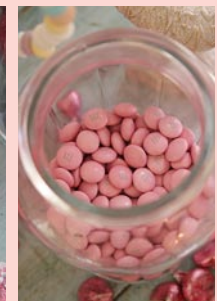


# SUGAR & SPICE



FOR JULIETTE'S FIRST BIRTHDAY, MY MOM AND I PLANNED A SUGAR & SPICE THEMED PARTY. IT WAS SIMPLE ENOUGH, BUT STILL CUTE AND WHIMSICAL FOR A FIRST BIRTHDAY PARTY. WE INVITED A FEW OTHER PLAYMATES, BUT MOSTLY ADULTS FOR AN AFTERNOON OF CATCH UPS AND TEA. IT WAS A BEAUTIFUL, INTIMATE BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION FOR A VERY SWEET GIRL.

RIGHT: The decorations consisted of jars filled with all the pink and brown candy I could find at the candy store.



RIGHT: Organic pink cupcakes from the local bakery.



ABOVE: We also filled a large hand painted container with fresh pink roses and an assortment of other pink flowers in antique jugs and vases.  
LEFT: I cut a large number one out of cardboard. Then applied some glue to the piece and sprinkled German crushed antique glass glitter on it.



Visit [monikaelenaphoto.com](http://monikaelenaphoto.com) to see more of Monika's photography.



THIS PAGE: We also draped candy and candy-themed ornaments on a little white tree.

## LEFTOVERS

# High and low

Introducing the HiLo chair. A colourful, dual height chair that will keep toddlers well seated from 6 months to 6 years. Unlike any other, with one easy manoeuvre, the chair conveniently swivels from high-chair to an under-table chair. A one-piece molded plastic seat is held together by wild cherry wood folding legs. There's a raised tray lip to stop bowls and cups flying. And the crotch bar helps baby stay put. It's an attractive more functional version of the humble high-chair which comes in four refreshing colours of Asparagus, Carrot, Portobello and Raspberry.

**Age Design, C\$350, ModernKid, modernkid.com**



### PRETTY JEWELS

L.A. based jeweller Ronni Kappos works with colourful German vintage glass beads to create gorgeous abstract pieces. This multi charms bracelet has an adjustable sliding bead closure making it perfect for all wrist sizes.

**Ronni Kappos, £63, caramel-shop.co.uk**

# CALLING ALL SOFTIES

*Text by Kate Fenwick*

Meet Me at Mike's, a Melbourne craft house and bunch of all-round good guys are calling on anyone who can stitch, sew, crochet or knit to contribute their handmade soft toys to a cause they truly believe in: The Mirabel Foundation.

Donated toys will be displayed in their Fitzroy shop window until 1 September. A selection of softies will be auctioned on ebay with funds going to Mirabel. Any toy that doesn't find a home during bidding season will be given to the Mirabel Christmas Appeal to become a welcome stocking stuffer for a child in need.

To get your hands on some of these adorable little folk and share the love, check out the sweet softies on offer through eBay or [www.meetmeatmikes.blogspot.com](http://www.meetmeatmikes.blogspot.com)



*Image by Ian MacPherson*

## How does your garden grow?

You won't need a green thumb to keep these pretty flower pots happy. Artist Jennifer Talbot hand-creates garden varieties such as the Gerbera Daisy, a Brown Eyed Susan and the plain but sweet Daisy made of felt, beads and buttons. Sure to brighten up your space and bring a smile to the curious little person in your life.

**Felt flower pots, US\$46 each, bdelicious.com**



### LITTLE COOKS

Little Kitchen is Australia's first organic cookery school designed and custom-built especially for children. Young chefs can choose from an array of yummy classes. Places fill up fast so make sure you book well in advance.

**Call 1300 722 095 or visit [littlekitchen.com.au](http://littlekitchen.com.au) to see a class schedule**