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### Holiday Greetings

This edition of the Winter eNewsletter focuses mostly on holiday suggestions. Our GAN website is packed with ideas about how you can prepare your home and family for celebrating comfortably together. [Dr. Holding's Guide](#) has an overview about expectations and how to make the holidays better for everyone. Visit GAN's [Best Holiday Suggestions](#) for tips from other grandparents about how you can plan for more enjoyable entertaining.

There are [great gift suggestions](#) for "priceless" gifts that are cost-free and gifts for any budget for the holidays. You will find ideas there for teens and adults, as well as gift certificates that you can use for the holidays or for *any* occasion.

The best gift you can give your family is compliments. Point out every new accomplishment, however small, that you see in your grandchild, and know that the family needs your reinforcement and support everyday.

The board of directors of GAN and I wish you and your family happy, healthy and love filled holidays.

Bonnie Gillman

### Holiday Tips

#### Holiday Gift Resources for Special Kids

AblePlay - toy rating system for children of all abilities  
<http://www.ableplay.org/>

eSpecial Needs Toys  
<https://www.especialneeds.com/shop/special-needs-toys.html>

Discovery Toys - special needs toy guide  
<http://www.discoverytoys.net/autism-toy-guide/>

SpecialNeedsGifts.com - a guide to selecting the right gift

Toys R Us Toy Guide for Differently-Abled Kids

<https://www.toysrus.com/toys/advice/differently-abled-toy-guide-special-needs-toys>

You can also specifically search for autism suggestions on this site.

## Finding the right Toys for Kids with Autism

A great video from CBS New York



## Great Apps

### CDC Introduces Developmental Milestone Tracker App

**Grandparents are frequently concerned about their grandchildren's development - and how they might detect delays in milestones.**

Centers For Disease Control And Prevention has released a free app designed to help parents understand when their kids should be hitting developmental benchmarks. It includes checklists with photos and videos detailing important milestones for kids 2 months to 5 years old as well as information on when to contact a doctor about potential issues. For more information, click [here](#), and to register for a Nov. 29 webinar on how to best use the app, click [here](#).

**Best Apps for Kids - Children's Apps and Websites Reviewed, Rated & Ranked by Moms & Educators**

**Find top-rated kids apps, get advice on finding the best educational websites and read about the best of the best kids apps and educational products.**

At Best Apps for Kids our goal is to help you find the best selling, most popular and highest rated kids apps and websites - no matter what category they might fall into! Get in-depth ratings, reviews, and buying advice for must-have children's apps based on rigorous expert testing.

Our moms and educators test every app and website on this site and our reviews are honest, trusted and in-depth. In addition to app reviews and ranked app lists, we also explore great education and parenting advice that we hope is helpful as you raise your little ones.

We hope you enjoy the site and don't forget to join us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) to join the conversation and get up to date tips and news.

Top Level Categories: [Best Apps for Kids](#), [Apps by Age & Grade](#), [Ebook Apps for Kids](#), [Education Apps for Kids](#), [Kids Apps by Category](#), [Character & Theme Apps](#), [Game Apps for Kids](#) [See All Categories](#)

## Fall 2017 Social

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### CSUF Fall Social 2017

Our 2017 Social for Adults (ages 16 & up) and Caregivers was held in October at Cal State Fullerton; we had over 250 guests - the largest attendance and most successful event to-date. Having these socials is rewarding for every volunteer and guest, and socials can be successful in every community.

Find out how to host a social in your area using our [Social Toolkit!](#) Contact us at [info@ganinfo.org](mailto:info@ganinfo.org) if you would like more information.



## eBay Donations: Make Room for New Holiday Gifts

### Donate to GAN's [Giving Works eBay Store](#)



Grandparents have lots of "stuff" like collectibles, unused gifts and household goods, clothing, vintage jewelry and things in good condition that our families "do not want."

Your "stuff" can benefit other grandparents and families affected by autism. The Grandparent Autism Network welcomes donated goods.

You can drop off tax deductible items at Jay's Catering, 10581 Garden Grove Blvd., Garden Grove, CA - or send them C/O GAN at 23785 El Toro Road, #103, Lake Forest, CA 92630 (USPS flat rate boxes may lower mailing costs!)

Grandparent Autism Network  
360 E. First Street #202  
Tustin, CA 92780-3211  
714.573.1500

[www.ganinfo.org](http://www.ganinfo.org)  
[www.faninfo.org](http://www.faninfo.org)

Networking together,

[info@ganinfo.org](mailto:info@ganinfo.org)



grandparents are a vital  
resource for autism...  
and each other!