



# Kids' Stuff: Toys and the Changing World of American Childhood

*Gary Cross*

Download now

[Click here](#) if your download doesn't start automatically

# Kids' Stuff: Toys and the Changing World of American Childhood

Gary Cross

## Kids' Stuff: Toys and the Changing World of American Childhood Gary Cross

To sort out who's who and what's what in the enchanting, vexing world of Barbies® and Ninja Turtles®, Tinkertoys® and teddy bears, is to begin to see what's become of childhood in America. It is this changing world, and what it unveils about our values, that Gary Cross explores in *Kids' Stuff*, a revealing look into the meaning of American toys through this century.

Early in the 1900s toys reflected parents' ideas about children and their futures. Erector sets introduced boys to a realm of business and technology, while baby dolls anticipated motherhood and building blocks honed the fine motor skills of the youngest children. *Kids' Stuff* chronicles the transformation that occurred as the interests and intentions of parents, children, and the toy industry gradually diverged--starting in the 1930s when toymakers, marketing playthings inspired by popular favorites like Shirley Temple and Buck Rogers, began to appeal directly to the young. TV advertising, blockbuster films like *Star Wars*®, and Saturday morning cartoons exploited their youthful audience in new and audacious ways. Meanwhile, powerful social and economic forces were transforming the nature of play in American society. Cross offers a richly textured account of a culture in which erector sets and baby dolls are no longer alone in preparing children for the future, and in which the toys that now crowd the racks are as perplexing for parents as they are beguiling for little boys and girls. Whether we want our children to be high achievers in a competitive world or playful and free from the worries of adult life, the toy store confronts us with many choices.

What does the endless array of action figures and fashion dolls mean? Are children--or parents--the dupes of the film, television, and toy industries, with their latest fads and fantasies? What does this say about our time, and what does it bode for our future? Tapping a vein of rich cultural history, *Kids' Stuff* exposes the serious business behind a century of playthings.

 [Download Kids' Stuff: Toys and the Changing World of Americ ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Kids' Stuff: Toys and the Changing World of Amer ...pdf](#)

## **Download and Read Free Online Kids' Stuff: Toys and the Changing World of American Childhood Gary Cross**

---

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Loraine Brown:**

What do you consider book? It is just for students as they are still students or that for all people in the world, the actual best subject for that? Just simply you can be answered for that question above. Every person has several personality and hobby per other. Don't to be forced someone or something that they don't need do that. You must know how great and important the book Kids' Stuff: Toys and the Changing World of American Childhood. All type of book could you see on many methods. You can look for the internet methods or other social media.

#### **Jerry Petrus:**

Do you really one of the book lovers? If so, do you ever feeling doubt if you find yourself in the book store? Aim to pick one book that you find out the inside because don't ascertain book by its handle may doesn't work here is difficult job because you are afraid that the inside maybe not as fantastic as in the outside seem likes. Maybe you answer is usually Kids' Stuff: Toys and the Changing World of American Childhood why because the wonderful cover that make you consider regarding the content will not disappoint a person. The inside or content is actually fantastic as the outside or cover. Your reading sixth sense will directly direct you to pick up this book.

#### **Frank Hudson:**

You will get this Kids' Stuff: Toys and the Changing World of American Childhood by browse the bookstore or Mall. Only viewing or reviewing it could possibly to be your solve difficulty if you get difficulties to your knowledge. Kinds of this book are various. Not only through written or printed but in addition can you enjoy this book by means of e-book. In the modern era just like now, you just looking by your local mobile phone and searching what your problem. Right now, choose your ways to get more information about your reserve. It is most important to arrange you to ultimately make your knowledge are still update. Let's try to choose suitable ways for you.

#### **Bruce Alexander:**

A lot of reserve has printed but it is unique. You can get it by net on social media. You can choose the best book for you, science, witty, novel, or whatever simply by searching from it. It is named of book Kids' Stuff: Toys and the Changing World of American Childhood. Contain your knowledge by it. Without causing the printed book, it could add your knowledge and make you actually happier to read. It is most important that, you must aware about guide. It can bring you from one destination to other place.

**Download and Read Online Kids' Stuff: Toys and the Changing  
World of American Childhood Gary Cross #ADT6743NOIV**

## **Read Kids' Stuff: Toys and the Changing World of American Childhood by Gary Cross for online ebook**

Kids' Stuff: Toys and the Changing World of American Childhood by Gary Cross Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Kids' Stuff: Toys and the Changing World of American Childhood by Gary Cross books to read online.

### **Online Kids' Stuff: Toys and the Changing World of American Childhood by Gary Cross ebook PDF download**

### **Kids' Stuff: Toys and the Changing World of American Childhood by Gary Cross Doc**

**Kids' Stuff: Toys and the Changing World of American Childhood by Gary Cross Mobipocket**

**Kids' Stuff: Toys and the Changing World of American Childhood by Gary Cross EPub**