

GOVSAFE COMPETITION



2012 Playsafe Competition

The number one priority for parents, teachers and carers when they are selecting suitable toys for their young charges is safety - but they also want to be sure their new purchases will capture the child's imagination and inspire creative play.

With those twin goals in mind, youngsters are invited to put their own creativity to the test and devise a new game or toy in the 2012 PlaySafe competition.

Guidance for budding inventors comes from the competition organisers, the Trading Standards Institute, in partnership with The British Toy and Hobby Association (BTHA).

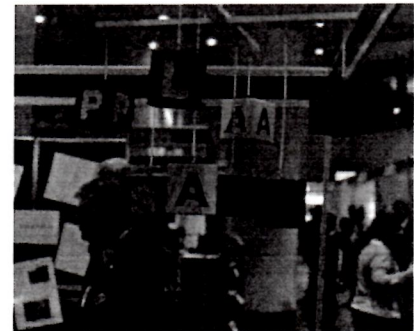
Youngsters in two age groups, from six to seventeen, are asked to design a toy ideal for a child **aged three to seven**. Their idea must be drawn on a page of **A3 paper**, with notes to highlight safety features, play and child development benefits, whether for indoor or outdoor use and if suitable for children with special needs. Of course, all the designs must feature the appropriate safety symbols, such as the CE Mark, the Lion Mark and safety warnings. There is a parallel competition for special needs schools as well.

INTERESTED?

Would-be toy makers and their teachers can find out more about the competition and how to enter on the BTHA website or the Trading Standards Institute website

<http://www.tradingstandards.gov.uk/events/events-playsafe.cfm> where you will find useful facts on the value of play, toy safety and understanding fads and fashions in toys.

These websites contain information that will be a valuable resource for teachers to encourage interest and provide an enjoyable as well as an educational experience.



Judging entries: Roland Earl BTHA and Mike Drewry TSI