

SAFETY: medibuddy

Some side effects of kids running free outdoors during summer are scraped knees and elbows, head bumps and bee stings. Turn tears into cheer with the medibuddy™, a kid-friendly and compact first aid kit that includes everything needed to treat and soothe a child's minor injuries when you're away from home. \$5, Target and Babies R Us



astronomy:

Mission: Space...a full-throttle tour of the universe from DK Publishing is a great book for your space nuts. It's in a circular hardcover format and includes a star poster, galactic fact cards and special out-of-this-world stickers, nicely kept in place by a Velcro enclosure. \$22, dk.com



tech lab:

EA Games has teamed up with Steven Spielberg to create Boom Blox – a Wii game that has high-energy, multiplayer action, more than 300 brain-busting levels, and 30-plus wacky Blox characters. The action-packed game — which can be shared with friends via WiiConnect24 — takes Wii play to a new level of enjoyment and creativity. Plus, it's rated E for Everyone. \$50, boomblox.ea.com



TECH LAB:

lil' jimmi's WEB PICK

Eight-year-old Jimmi's summer web pick is clubpenguin.com. Kids play using cartoon penguins and waddle around to different rooms in this virtual world, where they can chat and play games. Jimmi likes Club Penguin because

he can talk to his friends online. It's free to play, but there is an option to become a member for \$5.95 a month. Membership privileges include buying clothing and furniture for the penguins, and access to members-only parties. The "Parents" section includes information on safety measures.



ecology: water conservation

Get your kids to help wash the car with Lucky Earth's "Waterless" Car Wash. Save water by using this spray cleaner for your cars – it's environmentally safe, dye free and hypoallergenic. Plus it really works, and it's great for families with limited washing facilities – like my kid's aunties' lofts. \$17, luckyearth.com



zoology:

CATCH A WAVE WITH KENNY THE SHARK

Kids will absorb a wealth of fun fish facts by sinking their teeth into the daily adventures of the loveable tiger shark, Kenny. Includes real-life shark footage from Discovery Channel's "Shark Week." *Kenny the Shark – Catch A Wave*, \$13



A CUDDLY COUPLE OF PANDAS

Follow the lives of the amazing pandas at the Smithsonian National Zoo in the double feature *A Panda Is Born and Baby Panda's First Year* from Genius Products and Animal Planet. \$15



NO BORED GAMES HERE

Imagination Games has two DVD board games that not only will keep kids occupied at home during summer, but will educate them on SeaLife and WildLife. Jean-Michel Cousteau narrates the SeaLife game. \$40

