

Destinations & Resources

Take It With You: Kids bored? Open the bag

*Published 12:00 am PDT Sunday, April 13, 2008
Story appeared in TRAVEL section, Page IV*

"Think-ets" is a simple game that will help children pass the time during long trips.
rbonnafori@sacbee.com/Renee Bonnafori



Think back to when you were a kid waiting around somewhere with your mother – in the doctor's office, perhaps, or on a train or airplane trip, or during one of those midweek dinners in the church basement that seemed to drag on forever.

Maybe your mom, like mine, got creative when her kids got twitchy. She'd dig into purse and pockets and pull out a dozen items – lipstick, pencil, paper clip, penny, rubber band, odds and ends – and lay them out on a table. We kids would study the assortment, then close our eyes as she took a few items away. Our job when we opened our eyes was to identify what was missing.

Memories of those little-girl times came flooding back recently when I received in the mail a packet of "Think-ets." This simple game consists of 15 beautifully detailed miniature trinkets – a tiny horse, a pine cone, an alphabet block, a pair of pliers, etc. – meant to be rolled out on a flat surface and used for imaginative fun.

No two sets are alike. The tiny treasures, according to manufacturer Think-A-Lot Toys, have been collected from 10 sources in eight countries. They're packaged in a sheer pouch that fits easily in a pocket or purse and come with suggestions for 10 ways to play with them.

"Think-ets" have a suggested price of \$12.99 and can be purchased online at www.think-a-lot.com.

– Janet Fullwood