

Top Three Best Places to Buy Handmade Toys

1. Brooklyn Women's Exchange
2. Acorn
3. City Mouse Toy Shop

toy stores

* *Acorn*

323 Atlantic Avenue

718-522-3760

www.acorntoyshop.com

Acorn opened in fall 2004 on Boerum Hill's Atlantic Avenue, and it is a nice addition to the neighborhood. Many of the toys it carries are one of a kind, so this is a good place to pick up a unique gift. The owner crochets and knits the stuffed animals, and there is a well-chosen selection of classic toys such as jack-in-the-boxes and tea sets. Acorn has a great selection

of wooden toys by Schylling. It carries interesting pieces of wooden food, like apples and grapes, which make cute party favors.

* *Baby Bazaar*

55 Washington Street

718-875-4007

www.babybazaar.com

Baby Bazaar has a large selection of toys from Baby Gund, Lamaze, Manhattan Toys, Kouvalias, Tomy, Radio Flyer, and Melissa & Doug, as well as many other reputable brands. My personal favorites are a line of plastic outdoor toys shaped like vegetables by Chicco. Instead of having your little one ride a traditional rocking horse, she or he can ride an eggplant! The store even has a toy car shaped like a lemon. The staff is extremely helpful, and gift wrapping is free. The website is very user-friendly, with comprehensive lists of popular toys broken down by age group.

* *Barclay School Supplies*

166 Livingston Street

718-875-2424

www.barclayschoolsupplies.com

If you are looking for an educational toy or book for a preschool-age child, this is the place to go. Barclay is an enormous school-supply store that has an extensive early childhood section that can transform your apartment into a top-notch preschool classroom. This is where all the teachers shop, so it's a great place to pick up the things you think your child might use in preschool, so you can start the learning at home.