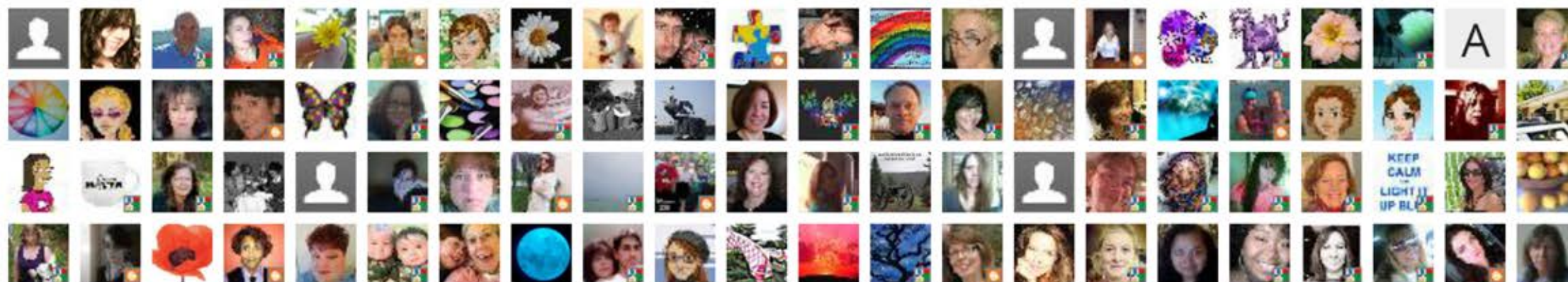


# Autism with a side of fries

Living the life with a son on the spectrum who proves that a side of fries makes anything better.

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Monday, December 2, 2013

## Top Holiday Gift Ideas for Kids with Autism

In honor of my 100th blog post, I thought I'd channel my inner Oprah Winfrey and make a "**Mama Fry's Favorite Things**" list. I had a great day dream going in my head that I would loudly announce, "You get a fidget! And you get a fidget!! Everyone in the audience gets fidgets!!!" and all these sullen looking interns dressed up like elves come out and just hand you all this stuff. Everybody would be jumping up and down and the kids would be flapping and it would be awesome.

Then I remembered I'm not Oprah and more importantly, I do not have Oprah money. Sorry fries. The only thing I could give away is various expired coupons I forget to use and old ATM receipts from my wallet. Quite a few folks follow this blog. While they don't have kids with autism, they know someone that does. They want to get them a nice holiday gift and they are kind of scratching their heads on what to give. Hell, some parents reading this are probably thinking this same. So here's a list of the top winners at French Fry Inc and the places you can get them. Kiddo tested and approved! (Disclaimer, these opinions are my own. I was provided samples or had previously bought the items of each to review)

**1) CHEWIGEM "Dog Tags" style necklace \$19.95** For those who need to chew for sensory input and self calming. I love these things. The site itself has lots of options, styles and colors. Even bracelets too. Stylish to look just like an accessory but made from non-toxic silicone. The necklace even has a breakaway clasp for safety. Easy to clean by hand or toss it in the top rack of the dishwasher. A perfect stocking stuffer. Get them here at <http://www.chewigemusa.com/collections/dog-tags>

**2) ROCKIN' ROCKER BOARD** from *Fun and Function* \$69.95 This is the sturdiest rocker balance board I have ever seen! I ought to know, the kiddo has broken quite a few by throwing them. This thing is solidly made. Doesn't take up a lot of room. Easy to wipe down to clean. Use it standing, sitting or kneeling. This board is great for working on balance and motor planning. When I first took it out of the box he immediately started playing with it. Winner Winner!! Get them here at <http://funandfunction.com/rockin-rockertm-board.html>

**3) SPACE EXPLORER Body Sock** from *Fun and Function* starting at \$32.99 Need a great sensory toy that's great for travel? This is the toy! Super for motor planning and perfect for those kids who are MAJOR sensory seekers. If your kiddo is like mine, this is really great for the input they are craving. Folds up easy for a suitcase and is machine washable because let's face it, life is messy. Comes in a variety of sizes and colors. Now animals prints too!! Get it here at <http://funandfunction.com/space-explorers.html>

**4) EXERCISE BALL** by *Natural Fitness* at *Target* \$24.99 Got a kiddo just seems to be bouncing off the walls? Give them a place to bounce! Trampolines are great but many are made only for little kids. This ball was a weight capacity of up to 300 pounds. Trust me, my kiddo has given this ball a solid test over the past two years. Still going very strong. Inflates in minutes. Good for when they need to just get out of some cabin fever energy or just chilling on it watching TV. Great for balance



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