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STEP ASIDE BRUSSEL SPROUTS! THE PARENTS' CHOICE FOUNDATION RECOMMENDS SERVING CHILDREN "MADE BY HANDS" ART ACTIVITIES & GAMES

*Made By Hands' Unique Art Activities & Games For Children
Has Received Two 2006 Parents' Choice Recommended Awards*

Chicago, IL (November 12, 2006) – Made By Hands is proud to announce its two newest art activity and game sets have been recommended for children by the highly-respected Parents' Choice Foundation in multiple categories.

Here are the Made By Hands products that the Parents' Choice Foundation is recommending for children:

Make-Your-Own™ Masterpieces

Award Category: Fall 2006 Doing & Learning Category and Toy Category
Recommended Award, Ages: 4 - 12 yrs.
Price: \$18.99

According to The Parents' Choice Foundation, "If your refrigerator gallery is running out of exhibition space for your child's artwork, this kit provides a practical and creative solution. Five various-sized, heavy-duty cardstock boards with picture frame stands allow easy display of the canvasses. Hundreds of Made By Hands trademark colorful die cut pieces invite little hands to create a portrait, a landscape, an animal or an "Oh, now I see it." Most of the die cuts are simple geometric shapes so the art takes on almost a mosaic style. Smaller children can simply glue the shapes randomly or in easy patterns, and older children can build more complex images with the shapes."



**3501 N. Southport
Chicago, IL 60657**

**773-761-4200
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Go Figure!™ Crazzzy Critters, Silly Bodies & Ways to Go!

Award Category: Fall 2006 Games Category

Recommended Award, Ages: 4 - 8 yrs.

Price: \$11.99



“With at least seven different ways to play and three Go Figure™ game varieties (Crazzzy Critters, Silly Bodies and Ways to Go), children take turns creating silly figures using unique, colorful shapes. “We Made It Together” was a big hit with our youngest tester-players. After selecting and punching out both large and small shapes from the cards, the first player selects a shape and places it on the table. The next player picks a shape and places it on top of, beneath or

next to the previous one. Continue until someone thinks the Critter (or body or vehicle) is complete. Shout “Go Figure!” to end the round. The only problem? Some players wanted to keep what they made and give it to Grandma.”

These Made By Hands products have received Parents’ Choice Recommended Awards for children aged 4 - 12. A Parents’ Choice Recommended Award implies their approval and, even beyond that, their thorough recommendation for reasons of production, appeal and fulfillment of the product’s clear intent.

The Parents’ Choice Awards™ Program’s mission is to identify the best products for children of different ages, backgrounds, skills, and interests. Parents’ Choice Awards are given to products that meet and exceed standards set by educators, scientists, performing artists, librarians, parents, and yes, kids themselves.

During its 28-year history, the Parents’ Choice Awards program has established the benchmarks of achievement in children’s media; trust for the consumers and credibility with the press.

Made By Hand’s past offerings have clinched the coveted Oppenheim Toy Portfolio Gold Seal Award, Dr. Toy’s Best 10 Creative Products Winner, Parents’ Choice Gold Seal Award, National Parenting Center Seal of Approval, and more. It makes sense given that the owners of the company and creators of all the products are a pair of Chicago moms who wanted a better alternative for their daughters. Not finding it in the stores, they “made it by hand...” their own hands, and those of their children.

For more information, visit their website, www.madebyhands.com

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