



Dear Reader,

Hello and welcome to the October 2017 issue of Child's Play! We hope everyone is back into their fall routine and the young ones are getting excited for some yummy treats next week!



As for us, we are excited with all that October has brought. We just found out that [KIBO has won a GOLD award from Parents' Choice](#) in their **Toy Category**! We are honored that their select panel of judges saw the value of KIBO for young learners (more below). We also received an "Outstanding" product review from [Ed Tech Round Up](#). It is fantastic when we receive validation on how KIBO helps young children learn invaluable 21st century skills.

In other news, we have a new **View from the Classroom** to share. Marsha Odell, from the Children's Computer Corner submitted her experience of [Going on a Bear Hunt with KIBO](#)! We are so thankful when educators share their experiences with robotics and young children. Learn more below and watch KIBO's adventure!

We hope to see many of you at one of our upcoming events this fall (6!) or at our November 4th training event. In addition, check out the extensive KIBO coverage in national publications (see below).

As always, thank you for reading and please stay in touch on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).

Mitch Rosenberg
Co-Founder and CEO

Have you heard? KIBO won a GOLD Toy Award from Parents' Choice!

KIBO has been named a **GOLD winner of the 2017 Parents' Choice Award in the Toy category**! The Parents' Choice Gold Award recognizes the "highest-quality, most appealing products in their genre." We are honored to be included as one of those products.

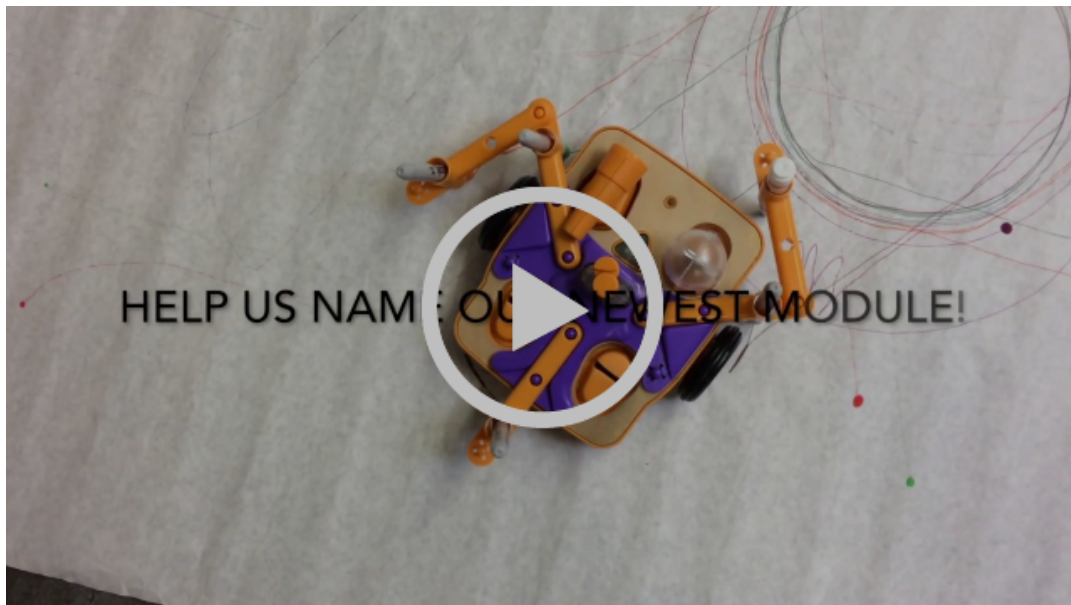
Our judge stated, "One of our favorite features of this kit is the fact that it uses no phone, no tablet, no screen to teach children coding. It's all hands-on. And that's playful learning at its best."



[Read the full release.](#)

We Need Your Help! Name our new KIBO Extension.

We are in the final stages of development for a brand new KIBO extension product, **which will be available later this fall**. This add-on will allow your KIBO to write and draw. Imagine what kids can create – geometric shapes, a pathway, their name! Now, the hard part...what should we name it? [Submit your suggestions](#). **We will choose its new name from those submitted and send the winner the brand-new extension!**



View from the Classroom ~ "We're Going on a Bear Hunt"

Marsha Odell, from the [Children's Computer Corner](#), brings early childhood technology to preschools throughout the Seattle area. She recently hosted a KIBO Robotics Camp using the children's book "[Going on a Bear Hunt](#)". With this theme, the kids mapped out the road to the bear cave on a long strip of white banner paper, colored in the River, the Forest, and the SnowStorm.

They then used the **Expression Module** for each team to make a picture of their

“person” going on the bear hunt. And then used the **Sound Record/Playback Module** to record the children's adventures. **Watch the adventure play out!**



"We're Going on a Bear Hunt!" - Marsha Odell

Want to Participate in Research? Host a Family Coding Day!

The DevTech Research Group at Tufts University, led by Dr. Marina Bers, our co-founder, is starting a new research project called **“Family Coding Days”**. They are interested in bringing together families and their children, ages 5–7, to make creative projects through programming in informal learning environments using KIBO.

The research group is **inviting organizations, schools, and museums to run their own Family Coding Days**. If you are interested, they will send you a detailed protocol with recruitment materials and curricula and provide guidance and support during the event. You will also be able to participate in the research through several short surveys. You can be a part of some great research!

[Sign up to host a KIBO Family Day!](#) (In order to qualify for the first cohort, be sure to sign up by January 31, 2018)

Meet Big KIBO!

Miki Vizner, M.A., a researcher at Tufts' [DevTech Research Group](#), recently shared a fun video with us. Miki's research focused on how size and physical scale impact children's engagement with robotics. To support his work, he created "Big KIBO": it has the same overall shape as KIBO and even scans the same blocks, but it's big enough to ride on.

Miki told us that the work gave him the chance to talk to kids about the role of people in engineering. *"One of the most exciting moments in my research was when one of the kindergartners in the study asked me who made Big KIBO. I told him I made it. The kindergartner had a look of disbelief at first. I imagine it could have been the first time he realized that toys / robots / things in our world are made by real people."*

Check out the video below to learn more about Big KIBO and Miki's research.



Big Robots for Little Kids - Miki Vizner

November 1/2 Day Training Session

We are offering an introductory half-day training session on **Saturday, November 4th** in our Waltham, MA KIBO factory. Get hands-on with KIBO and start building a curriculum for your school or program – and have fun doing it!

You will leave with ideas, excitement and a program best-suited for you. Learn and share best practices and come up with activities to use when you return to your classroom, library, museum, or other program.

[Sign up today!](#)



KIBO Tip: KIBO on a Curved Path!



Driving forward and back is great, but **what if your KIBO needs to curve?** Maybe KIBO is a race-car on a round track, or a planet orbiting the sun? Time for a little engineering! If KIBO's wheels are different sizes, KIBO will curve toward the side with the smaller wheel; the curve will be tighter if the difference is greater. Try wrapping a few layers of masking tape around one wheel, or attaching a larger recycle-craft circle to the outside of one wheel. **What other ways can your kids think of to change the wheel size?**



Conference Corner

Stop by and meet the KinderLabbers at one of the events this coming up and give KIBO a spin for yourself:

- **MAST – Boxboro, MA** – November 2–3



KIBO in the News

Check out some of our new news where KIBO has been featured!

- **Wired:** [Can Robots Help Get More Girls into Science and Tech?](#)

- **GAETC** – Atlanta, GA – November 8-10
- **NAEYC** – Atlanta, GA – Nov. 15-18
- **Annual CT State Superintendents Conference** – Groton, CT – November 17th
- **NYSCATE Annual Conference** – Nov. 20-21, Rochester, NY
- **CA STEAM Conference** – San Francisco, CA – Dec. 10-11
- **The Ed Tech Round Up Review:** [KIBO from KinderLab Robotics: Coding and Robotics for PreK-2 Students](#)
- **Education Talk Radio:** [Learning How to Code in Early Education](#)
- **EdWeek:** [Breaking Gender Stereotypes Through Early Exposure to Robotics](#)

Don't forget to send in your naming suggestions for the new drawing add-on. You could win a FREE one if you win!

Want to share your experiences with KIBO?



We love to hear from our customers and learn some of the interesting and creative things they are doing with KIBO. Please check out the [KIBO Resources](#) website to see the classroom stories and activity ideas submitted by teachers.

[Share your own stories, ideas and insights](#) to help inspire others!



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